COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hundred and Seventy-fourth Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rome, 4-8 December 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter and proposal from 13 Council Members and 28 Observers dated 4 December 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
December 4, 2023

His Excellency Dr. Qu Dongyu  
Director-General  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome

The Honorable Hans Hoogeveen  
Independent Chair of Council  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome

Mr. Director-General, Mr. Independent Chair of Council:

Please find herewith a draft decision submitted as a formal proposal pursuant to Rule XI of the General Rules of the Organization applicable mutatis mutandis to FAO Council, submitted by the undersigned 13 Members of Council and 28 Observers, under agenda item 6 of the provisional agenda of the 174th session of the Council, entitled “Impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)”.

This proposal is submitted for decision by the Council in the manner foreseen under Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule IV of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of FAO.

We thank you for circulating this proposal to all FAO Members and referencing it as an official document of the 174th session.

Sincerely,

H.E. Anila Lani Bitri  
Ambassador of Albania

Emma Hatcher  
Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of Australia

Günter Walkner  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Austria to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
H.E. Lieven De La Marche  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Belgium to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Ivo Mouskourov  
Minister Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria to FAO

H.E. Elissa Golberg  
Ambassador of Canada to Italy, Albania, San Marino, Malta and the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Jasen Mesić  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Croatia to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. George F. Poulides  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture

Roman Diatka  
Counsellor and Permanent Representative of Czechia to FAO and WFP

Lisbeth Jespersen  
Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative of Denmark to FAO, WFP and IFAD, Royal Danish Embassy Rome

Tõnis Tänav  
Deputy Secretary General for Fisheries Policy and Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture, Estonia

H.E. Alexandra Valkenburg  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the European Union to the UN Organisations in Rome

Tanja Grön  
Minister Counsellor and Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO, WFP and IFAD

H.E. Céline Jurgensen  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations in Rome

Irakli Vekua  
Minister Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative a.i. of Georgia to the UN Organizations FAO, IFAD, WFP

H.E. Joachim Bleicker  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the UN Organizations in Rome
H.E. Eleni Sourani  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

H.E. Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome

H.E. Patricia O’Brien  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture

H.E. Matthias Geir Pállsson  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iceland to FAO, WFP and IFAD

H.E. Bruno Archi  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN Organizations in Rome

H.E. Satoshi Suzuki  
Ambassador of Japan

H.E. Solvita Āboltiņa  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to FAO

H.E. Dalia Kreivienė  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the UN Organisations in Rome

H.E. Michèle Pranchère-Tomassini  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the UN Organisations in Rome

H.E. Carmel Vassallo  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Ambassador Anatolie Urecheanu  
Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova

H.E. Marcel Beukeboom  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Jackie Frizelle  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Morten von Hanno Aasland  
Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN Organisations in Rome
H.E. Artur Pollok  
 Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Organizations in Rome

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 Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Gabriela Dancau  
 Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Romania to the UN Organisations in Rome

Zora Weberova  
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H.E. Jan Björklund  
 Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sweden to the UN Agencies in Rome

H.E. Krisztina Bende  
 Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN organisations in Rome

H.E. Yaroslav Melnyk  
 Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to FAO

Liz Nasskau  
 Chargé d’affaires, United Kingdom Permanent Representation to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome

Rodney M. Hunter  
 Minister Counsellor, Charge d’Affaires a.i. at the United States Mission to the UN agencies
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

174th session of the Council

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda

“Impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)”

Draft decision

The Council:

a) recalled its decisions and recommendations of its 169th, 170th, 171st and 172nd sessions, as well as the report of the 43rd session of the FAO Conference, and stressed the need to continue their full implementation;

b) deplored the unilateral termination of the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports, known as the “Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI)”, by the Russian Federation on 18 July 2023, stressing the benefits that this Initiative has brought along for global food security by enabling the safe transportation of nearly 33 million metric tons of grains and other foodstuffs from Ukraine to 45 countries across three continents;

c) reiterated its call for the immediate cessation of attacks on Ukraine’s critical agriculture and energy infrastructure, noting in particular the systematic attacks on ports that followed the termination of the Black Sea Grain Initiative;

d) stressed again the need to allow for the full resumption of Ukrainian agricultural production and its unimpeded export from Ukraine, including via the Black Sea;

e) welcomed the “Grain from Ukraine” humanitarian initiative carried out in partnership with the World Food Programme, under which more than 170,000 tons of Ukrainian grain have already been delivered to Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Yemen;

f) recalled its decision to remain seized of this matter.