

منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación



CONFERENCE

Twenty-eighth Session

Rome, 20 October - 2 November 1995

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

EIGHTH PROGRESS REPORT

- 1. Document C95/18 concludes with a draft decision proposed by the Secretariat which reads as follows:
 - 91. The following draft decision may be considered by the Conference: "The Conference <u>recommended</u> that future reporting on progress on the International Agricultural Adjustment Guidelines be incorporated into the documents for the Committees of the Council, the Council or Conference as indicated in the concluding paragraphs under each Guideline in this report."
- 2. Following the recommendations of the 108th Council (CL 108/REP, para. 47(e)), an informal meeting of Permanent Representatives was called on 19 September 1995 to examine this draft decision. The meeting took note of the fact that the Guidelines for International Agricultural Adjustment (IAA) had been adopted by the Conference at its 18th Session in 1975 and revised by the Conference at its 22nd Session in 1983. Progress reports had been prepared and considered by the Conference every two years from 1977 to 1987. At its 24th session in 1987 the Conference decided that in the future progress reports should be prepared every four years, but that an interim progress report on Guidelines 7, 8 and 12 be prepared for its 25th Session in 1989. The Seventh full progress report (the first of the four-year cycle) had been considered by the Conference at its 26th Session in 1991. On this occasion, the Conference "... agreed that the Secretariat should continue to undertake periodic four-year reviews of policies affecting world food and agriculture using the IAA Guidelines as a broad framework" (C 91/REP, paragraph 60).
- 3. The informal meeting of Permanent Representatives requested the Secretariat to prepare a supplement to document C 95/18 to be submitted to the Conference to facilitate its consideration of the draft decision. This supplement should focus on the extent to which the agendas and related documents of the Conference, the Council and the Committees of the Council or other documents

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provided an adequate basis for members to inform themselves about, or deliberate on, progress in IAA, and in particular to review progress for specified subsets of the Guidelines on different occasions.

- 4. The present supplement to document C 95/18 has been prepared in response to this request. The attached schedule is a consolidated picture of the documents which cover topics of the IAA Guidelines and which are regularly produced for the consideration of the Conference, the Council or the Committees of the Council. In addition, the periodic FAO publications *Food Outlook* (every two months) and the FAO *TCDC/ECDC Newsletter* (every six months) report on topics covered by the IAA Guidelines, the former on those of Guidelines 10 and 11, the latter of Guideline 9.
- 5. Overall, these documents cover regularly, but in varying degrees of detail and depth, the topics of the IAA Guidelines, with the possible exception of those of Guideline 2 (domestic resource flows to agriculture). Thus, if the draft decision were adopted, and provided that these documents were prepared with a view to meeting the IAA monitoring needs, it would still be possible for the Conference, the Council or the Committees of the Council to review progress in IAA for subsets of guidelines, though on different occasions for each subset, as indicated in the attached schedule. In this connection, the informal meeting of the Permanent Representatives noted that if the preparation of the four-yearly comprehensive reports on progress in IAA were discontinued, it would be difficult for future sessions of the Conference to have the IAA item on their agendas.

Principal FAO document in which recent developments in topics of the IAA Guidelines are regularly reviewed	Frequency	Covers developments in topics of the IAA Guidelines	Is the principal document regularly on the agenda of the Conference, Council or any Committee?
State of Food and Agriculture (SOEA). Contains diskette with most of the raw data used in the preparation of the progress reports on IAA (latest: October 1995).	Annual	GL 1 - Agricultural Production - Agricultural Policies GL 10 - World Cereals Situation and Stocks GL 11 - Food Aid GL 12 - External Assistance to Agriculture Mote: In addition to the above-mentioned topics, the Special Chapters of SOFA and the Chapters on "Selected Issues" review selected topics, varying from year to year, some of which are directly relevant to the topics of the Guidelines. Examples: 1993 SOFA: issues of nutrition (Guidelines 5, 6) and of water policies (Guidelines 1, 2); 1994 SOFA: review of the North American Free Trade Agreement (Guidelines 5, 6) and trade (Guidelines 7, 8, 9).	An advance version of the full document (except special Chapter) was on the agenda of the Conference or Council every year up to 1994. For 1995 the full final SOFA will be a background document and the document on the agenda of the 28th Conference is a short summary of issues (C 95/2).
Documents for the CCP, latest main document: World Commodity Situation and Outlook and Trends in Protectionism in Agricultural Trade (CCP 95/10, January 1995).	Biennial	GL 7 Policies affecting agricultural trade GL 8 Policies affecting stability of world markets; International Commodity Agreements GL 9 ECDC (Regional trading arrangements)	Yes, in the biennal session of the CCP (next: 1996).
Documents for the CFS, latest main document: Assessment of the Current World Food Security Situation and Medium Term Review (CFS 95/2, February 1995).	Annual	Of 10 World Econ committee including Food Challe	Yes, in the annual session of CFS (next:
Documents for the CCP Intergovernmental Group on Grains, latest main document: <i>The Uruguay Round Final Act and Its Implications for the World Grains Economy</i> (CCP/GR95.1, May 1995).	Biennial	GL 11 Food Aid	1996) and the biennial session of the Group on Grains (next: 1997).
Progress Reports on the WCARRD Programme of Action. Latest: Fourth Progress Report (C95/INF/22, August 1995).	Every 4 years	GL 3 Access to production resources, credit, etc. GL 4 People's participation: Women in Development	It was on the Conference Agenda every four years until 1991. For the present Conference in 1995 it is an information document.
Progress Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development. Latest: Fourth Progress Report (C95/14, July 1995). (In the future: FAO Plan of Action for Women in Development, C 95/14 Sup. 1).	Biennial	GL 4 People's participation, Women in Development	Yes, on the Conference agenda (next: 1997).
Reports on Implementing the ICN World Plan of Action for Nutrition (latest C 95/INF/18, October 1995).	Annual or Biennial	GL 5 Policies to alleviate poverty and improve nutrition GL 6	In the COAG up to 1995. Nutrition which is a standing item on COAG will be shifted to CFS in 1997 on a trial basis. Programming aspects of nutrition will continue to be discussed at COAG.