

conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ROME

C 89/17
September 1989

Twenty-fifth Session

Rome, 11 - 30 November 1989

RELATIONS WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL

AND

INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
INTRODUCTION	1 - 2
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	3 - 36
INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	37 - 46
INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNIONS	47 - 49
APPENDIX A: International Organizations with which formal relations have been established since end 1987	Page 11

INTRODUCTION

1. This paper outlines some of the more significant developments concerning cooperation with inter-governmental and international non-governmental organizations, during the period under review. As in the past, the scope of this paper is purely informative and no points requiring action are put before the Conference.
2. National non-governmental organizations associated with the activities of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development, are not covered in this paper.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

3. Cooperation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) has continued in monitoring the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). FAO was a member of the inter-agency working group which drafted the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD which was submitted to the General Assembly for the mid-term review of the Programme of Action. Since the mid-term review, FAO has actively participated in all the work of the inter-agency mechanisms that have been established to monitor and report on the implementation of UN-PAAERD. FAO/OAU cooperation also continues in a range of technical fields (such as rinderpest and animal trypanosomiasis control, crop protection, integrated management of the Fouta Djallon Mountains, remote sensing, nutrition) as well as in the provision of assistance to National Liberation Movements.
4. Through a project "Promotion of Production and Marketing of Tropical Timber for the Member Countries of the African Timber Organization (ATO)" FAO provides assistance to ATO in the fields of timber grading and forest products marketing analysis.
5. FAO assisted the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in developing and implementing regional projects on (i) Sharing and strengthening development communication resources in ASEAN countries; (ii) Small-scale Coastal Fisheries; (iii) Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance; (iv) Coastal Rehabilitation through seagrass restoration; and (v) establishment of ASEAN Timber Bureau. FAO supported the ASEAN Agricultural Development Planning Centre by strengthening their capabilities in agricultural planning and investment project formulation.
6. The main features of FAO's support to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat are reflected by the following technical assistance which was provided during 1988 and 1989; Project TCP/RLA/8853: Marketing and Post-Harvest Support to Small Farmers; Project TCP/RLA/8855, Caribbean Agricultural Technology Information Service; Project TCP/RLA/8962: Legal Aspects of a Common Policy on Access to Exclusive Economic Zones. In addition, FAO at the request of the CARICOM Secretariat has prepared a regional project document entitled "Programme for the Eradication of *Amblyomma Variegatum* from the Caribbean" for submission to prospective donors, as well as two issues of papers on the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for the Caribbean.

7. Cooperation with the Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa (CIRDAFRICA) was inter alia in the form of training activities for the documentalists in CIRDAFRICA Member States on Management of Agricultural and Rural Development Information Services.
8. Collaboration with the Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) was particularly in the fields of training and practical research in rural development and also in monitoring and evaluation of agrarian reform and rural development and delivery systems for small farmers.
9. The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean has supported the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC) in preparing a project to improve agricultural and food national marketing systems of the Andean countries and to facilitate the development of agricultural commodity and food intra-regional trade. A survey mission JUNAC/FAO visited Colombia and Venezuela in April 1989 with regard to desert locust presence in both countries. The regional project on Prevention of African Swine Fever and other diseases in the Andean pact countries is being completed. It will be the follow-up to a new regional project on animal health which will cover other countries of Latin America in addition to those belonging to the Andean Group.
10. Studies have been carried out on behalf of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL) to determine the potential for multi-sectoral assistance to promote intra-community trade and the development of natural resources. Cooperative activities were also conducted with the CARIS Coordinating Centre at FAO.
11. A delegation of officials of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) visited FAO Headquarters in May 1988 to collect technical information for the formulation of regional programmes to support the efforts of member states in the production of fertilizers, seeds and pesticides and in the control of animal diseases.
12. An agreement between FAO and the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought in the Sahel (CILSS) was signed in 1988 to formalize and define more precisely areas of co-operation between the two organizations. Food security remains the key element in FAO's cooperation with CILSS. In particular, assistance is provided through TCP and trust funds for the creation of the "Coordinating Cells for Food Security" in the CILSS Secretariat. As a follow up to a regional TCP funded project - Training for Trainers in Irrigation Water Management in West Africa - which was implemented in cooperation with CILSS and the Inter-State School of Rural Equipment Engineers, a new training project encompassing various aspects of irrigation management is in preparation. This new project activity involves also cooperation with the Inter-African Committee for Hydraulic Studies, as well as with the International Irrigation Management Institute, an International Non-Governmental Organization. FAO has, jointly and within the framework of a forestry project, formulated detailed project proposals for the establishment of national tree seed centres for each of the nine CILSS countries and a sub-regional tree seed centre. These important proposals will be presented for financing to the donor community.
13. Cooperation with the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) has been further strengthened. In May 1988, a meeting was held in Arusha, Tanzania, between representatives of FAO and the SADCC

Sector Coordinators for Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources for direct consultations on matters related to the development and implementation of joint FAO/SADCC project activities. The SADCC Early Warning System for Food Security was reviewed towards the end of 1988. In follow-up to the recommendation by the SADCC/FAO/DANIDA Tripartite Review Mission, project documents have been prepared for a continuation of the programme for a further five-year period beyond June 1990. The SADCC Regional Training Centre for Middle-level Personnel for the Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis was evaluated early in 1989 by a joint FAO/UNDP/SADCC Mission. An extension of the donor support for another two years has been recommended. An FAO/UNDP/Netherlands/SADCC Mission visited the SADCC region in May-June 1989 for the finalization of a project document for a five-year Regional East Coast Fever Immunization project. Under Trust Fund arrangements with FAO, the Italian Government has doubled its allocation to a total of US\$27 million for the establishment of a Zimbabwe based Forest Industries Training Centre for SADCC countries. In response to SADCC requests, the Director-General of FAO has agreed to finance a series of SADCC training projects from FAO's TCP resources. As at May 1989, FAO has participated in the development and execution of some 25 SADCC projects financed from Trust Fund, UNDP and FAO/TCP sources. The total donor contributions to ongoing FAO/SADCC activities amounts to almost US\$50 million.

14. Close cooperation was maintained with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). This included attendance at a meeting sponsored by IICA to review and analyse opportunities and requirements for decentralizing specific CGIAR wheat research and training activities in Latin America. FAO also attended the meeting on the Interamerican Network of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories. FAO has continued participating at the Interamerican Coordinating Group on Plant Protection formed by regional organizations. Mutual cooperation between FAO/RLAC and IICA in plant health activities has continued between the FAO Regional Plant Protection Officer and the IICA Plant Health Specialist for the Antilles, both stationed in Port-of-Spain. Consultations between the two organizations have taken place during 1988 and 1989 with respect to the studies on agriculture in the region which both have prepared.

15. FAO has been extending support to the International Jute Organization (IJO) in the preparation of projects on jute agriculture and primary processing for support through the FAO/Trust Fund programme and execution both by FAO and by other bodies such as the Asian Development Bank, as well as through the supply of statistical data and economic information on jute and its competing products. The work on the preparation of the project documents was initiated with support from FAO's TCP which allocated US\$85 000 for the purpose. Project documents for the following projects have been prepared: (i) Development and Application of Integrated Pest Management for Jute and Kenaf at Farm Level; (ii) Improved Retting of Jute; (iii) Development and Extension of Jute-based Farming Systems; (iv) Jute Seeder Development; and (v) Strengthening Jute and Kenaf Seed Programmes. These proposals, which are at various stages, are under consideration by Trust Fund donors.

16. In addition to its participation in meetings of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and its Action Committees, FAO has been involved in

a series of activities. For instance:

- The Secretariat of the FAO Commission on Plant Genetic Resources has set up contacts with the ad interim Secretariat of the Action Committee on Latin American Cooperation and Consultation on Plant Genetic Resources (CARFIT) so as to discuss possible joint action.

- The following activities have been agreed upon: a) support for the preparation of the Plan of Work for the Action Committee and for the organization of the CARFIT meeting scheduled for August/September 1989; b) technical and financial support for two training courses on utilization of germplasm of local crops and under-utilized species in Central America and the Caribbean and in South America, to be held in Costa Rica and Peru respectively, in September 1989.

17. Cooperation with the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) took place mainly through RLAC. Several studies on trade of agricultural commodities were completed in 1987 and 1988. ALADI attended the RLAC sponsored round-tables on Commercial Policies and Food Security, and on Fruit and Vegetable Export Development and Post-harvest Management held in Santiago and Buenos Aires, respectively, in 1988. There is permanent contact regarding agricultural trade issues and increasing interest to relate the development of intra-regional trade to the regional food security objective.

18. FAO has attended, as an observer, the Conferences of Ministers and the sessions of the Executive Council of the Latin American Organization for the Development of Fisheries (OLDEPESCA) and several expert meetings. FAO is in particular assisting the Working Group on Fisheries Research in Central America.

19. Cooperation with the League of Arab States (LAS) covered several areas. Mutual participation in seminars, workshops and other technical meetings continued and contributed to strengthen the collaboration between FAO and the LAS. The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) participated as an observer in the foundation meeting for the Agricultural Food Marketing Association for the Near East and North Africa (AFMANENA), sponsored by FAO, in Amman, Jordan, 3-6 December 1988. FAO participated in various high-level meetings organized by the LAS and its subsidiary bodies, such as the Conference of the Permanent Technical Committee of the Heads of Statistical Organizations in the Arab Countries; the World Bank/EDI seminar on Agricultural Adjustment in the Arab States held in Kuwait and in Syria, where a paper on the macro-economic framework for agricultural adjustment programmes was presented; and the Consultative Meeting, convened by the LAS, in order to review and make recommendations regarding the establishment of the Arab Information Systems Network, ARISNET. FAO also finalized the report of the Round Table meeting on Medium and Long-term Agricultural Development, co-sponsored by FAO, AAAID and AOAD.

20. Technical cooperation included the provision of information material for presentation in a Research Colloquium for the Productive Family, and a document on FAO's expertise available for promoting activities oriented towards the improvement of social and economic conditions of the rural population; arrangements were made with the Arab Centre for the Studies of

Arid Zones (ACSAD) to organize in 1989, with FAO's financial support, a workshop on the Development of Fruit Trees Adapted to Dry Lands. In the area of training, FAO has supplied the Population Research Unit (PRU) of the LAS, at their request, with updated computer software and country data bases and assistance enabling PRU to apply the Computerized System for Agricultural and Population Planning Assistance and Training (CAPPA) to a current total of eight LAS member countries for either training or research purposes.

21. FAO is collaborating with the Mano River Union (MRU) Secretariat through its execution of project RAF/88/100, "Trypanotolerant Livestock for Tsetse Infested Areas". The project is designed to promote the economic production of livestock in the tsetse infested areas of west and central Africa in the framework of integrated rural development programmes, as a means of improving the standard of living of the populations residing in these areas.

22. Within the framework of project RAF/83/028, "Assistance to the Niger Basin Authority" (NBA), FAO has carried out a study on the restructuring of the NBA and has assisted in the preparation of a five-year programme of activities for the Authority.

23. Cooperation with the Organization of American States (OAS) has included participation in an OAS mission to El Salvador, in 1988, to advise the Government on projects aimed at generating employment opportunities.

24. FAO has expressed its willingness to support the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC) within the framework of a project proposal for UNDP assistance to the Union.

25. FAO continued to cooperate closely with the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). Highlights of these activities include the participation in the Third Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the OIC, held in Islamabad, Pakistan, in October 1988. For the meeting, FAO prepared three important documents: a) "Review of Food Security Situation in the OIC Member Countries" which reviewed the developments of food security and agricultural development in the OIC member countries during the past 5 years. Delegates stressed the need for regular, periodic monitoring of the food security situation in the Islamic countries; b) "Increasing Trade in Food Commodities Among the OIC Member Countries"; the delegates expressed grave concern about the dependence of Islamic countries on imports for food commodities; in fact, it has grown from near self-sufficiency to a net deficit of US\$16.6 billion per year; c) "Identification of Measures and Policies Necessary for Increasing the Production of Livestock including Poultry and Fisheries"; the delegates appreciated this study and requested that a similar one be undertaken by FAO to include production of poultry and fisheries to be presented at the Fourth Ministerial Conference. FAO also participated actively in the Symposium on Food Security and Agricultural Development in the Islamic World, held in Rabat, Morocco, in February 1989. FAO also collaborated with OIC in the fields of agricultural sector analysis, statistics, forestry and information systems.

26. FAO is collaborating with the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) Secretariat through two FAO-executed technical assistance projects. The first, project TCP/RAF/8852, Food

Marketing Promotion Unit and Data Bank, is designed to assess the data currently available on trade in food products in and among the PTA countries, and elaborate proposals for the structure, functions and methods of operation of the proposed Data Bank. The second, project RAF/87/117, Intraregional Cooperation in Development of Plantation-based Forest Industries, is designed to assist the member countries in developing forest plantation resources, industries and markets, expanding the industrial use of plantation timber, rationalizing product planning and enhancing manpower development. In addition, FAO continues to provide technical comments on various PTA proposals for assistance to the agricultural and rural sectors from the donor community.

27. Close cooperation has also been established with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and a workshop will be held in Bangkok in October 1989 to examine the possibility of a joint FAO/SEAFDEC statistical collection system.

28. Cooperation with the Union of Banana Exporting Countries (UPEB) took inter alia the form of an interchange of periodic information on world markets. A technical assistance project for strengthening the technical capability of this Organization to improve its statistics, documentation, communication and research, completed its activities during 1988. FAO is also supporting UPEB's efforts in plant protection regarding black sigatoka disease of banana and plantains.

29. Through its TCP, FAO assisted the West African Economic Community (WAEC) and its member states in the definition and implementation of a common agricultural policy.

30. FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLAC) has periodically exchanged information on Food Security matters with the Action Committee for Food Security in Latin America (CASAR).

31. Closer cooperation is being developed with Pacific fishery agencies in order to improve the reliability and consistency of fishery statistical data. Assistance has been given in particular to the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) in the establishment of a regional data base and collection system, the operation of which will be a joint CPPS/FAO arrangement.

32. Mutual consultations have taken place during 1988 between RLAC and the Executive Secretary of the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA) to agree upon complementary activities.

33. A general agreement between FAO and the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC) is expected to be signed shortly. In 1988, at the invitation of CEEAC, FAO participated in a meeting at Libreville at which the formulation of a project "Multisectoral Assistance to the Economic Community of Central African States for the Promotion of Economic Integration in the Sub-Region", proposed for UNDP funding, was finalized. CEEAC envisages FAO execution of the agricultural components of the project.

34. FAO has been providing technical assistance to the International Regional Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA) through a subregional project TCP/RLA/6773 "Campaign against grasshoppers in Central America".

35. FAO assisted the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (ACCT) by financing the participation of several countries in the AGRIS/CARIS training seminar organized by the French AGRIS and CARIS Centres.

36. Recently, the Organization has developed cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA) concerning the development and demonstration of two-way satellite communications between FAO Headquarters and the various regions of Africa for rapid transmission of high-volume satellite environmental monitoring data in support of food security early warning programmes and for improving various aspects of communication between Headquarters and the field. This system, named DIANA (Data and Information Available Now in Africa) is based on a low-cost concept, using micro-computer terminals, connected through the Intelsat satellite. A one-year demonstration period with four remote terminals in Nairobi, Harare, Niamey and Algiers is scheduled to start in late 1990. Further recent cooperation with ESA concerns development of appropriate techniques for application of satellite radar images of the earth's surface to mapping and monitoring of agricultural and forest lands. This activity includes implementation of a pilot project in Tunisia, organization of a training course, and preparation of two technical reports.

INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (INGOS)

37. During the current biennium, cooperation with the Ad hoc Group of Representatives of INGOS to FAO residing in Rome has continued and briefing sessions were organized, for instance, on NGO's involvement in rural development and on the Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides - introduction of the "Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) clause.

38. In March 1989, FAO jointly with UNDP and the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) sponsored a workshop on NGO Involvement in Grassroots Development in the Philippines. The workshop was aimed at promoting dialogue between NGOs and the Government. As a follow-up to this workshop, it is expected that FAO will be requested to assist the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) in the preparation of a sector analysis of people-powered projects in the areas of agricultural and rural development. The analysis would identify specific areas for joint government/NGO activities. NEDA is likely to request FAO's assistance for project identification concerned with NGOs and people's organizations.

39. Cooperation has continued with the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) in particular through consultations with its agricultural committee and participation in activities organized by its fisheries committee.

40. Close ties have been maintained with the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), in particular through informal consultations on commodities and trade.

41. FAO/AGA has cooperated with the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) in the Gambia on an evaluation of the technical needs and the preparation of a project "Assistance to Livestock Development in the Gambia".

42. FAO has collaborated with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and National Resources (IUCN) in a number of activities of mutual interest concerned with the planning and management of natural resources. In 1988, a meeting was held with the FAO Cooperation Network on National Parks and Protected Areas. Formal and informal contacts are maintained within the context of the Ecosystems Conservation Group. A new initiative was the contact between FAO and IUCN on the possibility of regional animal gene banks being used for the storage of semen and embryos from wild animal species. FAO contributed to the first edition of the Sahel Environmental Status Report, a new initiative of IUCN.

43. FAO and the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE) regularly exchange information on agricultural credit issues and on other broader aspects concerning agricultural development. Several contacts have been made by FAO/RLAC with ALIDE to discuss proposals for a joint FAO/ALIDE programme in the field of agricultural credit, which in principle has been agreed upon, covering two activities: institutional strengthening of agricultural development banking in Latin America, and modernization of agriculture and the financing of technological transfer and innovation.

44. The International Union of Forestry Research Organization (IUFRO), in close cooperation with FAO's Forestry Department, organized research planning workshops in all major regions, as well as some subject-specific research courses. FAO has also been involved in various follow-up activities in all three regions, including a full-scale follow-up project in Africa.

45. Fruitful cooperation has continued with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), particularly in the fields of mountain watershed management, social forestry, mountain agriculture and animal husbandry.

46. Close cooperation was established with the International Hide and Allied Trade Improvement Society (IHATIS), which contributed a comprehensive document on technical improvement problems to the Second Session of the FAO Sub-Group on Hides and Skins in March 1989.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNIONS (ITUs)

47. In collaboration with the International Trade Unions, FAO/RAPA sponsored a regional training workshop on Rural Workers' Self-help Agro-Forestry activities in Asian Countries held in Bangkok in 1988.

48. The Eleventh Consultation between International Trade Unions (ITUs) and FAO held in Rome in April 1989, fully supported FAO's activities to promote participation of national rural workers' organizations in agricultural and rural development in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. New joint FAO/ITU activities at regional and national levels will be focussed on training and leadership/trainers and development of action plans for community/agro-forestry activities benefiting rural workers at local level.

49. The ITUs contributed to the FAO World Food Day activities in many member countries and will contribute, if and when required, to FAO monitoring activities of the implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Use and Distribution of Pesticides and the FAO Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development.

APPENDIX A

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH FORMAL RELATIONS
HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED SINCE END 1987

Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)

1. Formal relations have been established with the following IGOs through an exchange of letters between the Director-General of FAO and the heads of the respective organizations, or other appropriate documents, bringing the total number to 106.

- African Oil Palm Development Association
- Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States

International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)

2. Consultative Status has not been granted to any new INGO since the last session of the Conference. The number of organizations with consultative status remains at 16.

3. Special Consultative Status has not been granted to any new INGOs since the last session of the Conference. The number of organizations with specialized consultative status remains at 53.

4. The following organizations have been granted Liaison Status bringing the total number to 108:

- American Fisheries Society
- International Association of Rural Family Centers
- International Union for Cooperation towards Development
- World Blind Union

-.--.-.-.-