

June 2011



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة للأمم
المتحدة

联合国
粮农及
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Food and
Agriculture
Organization
of the
United Nations

Organisation des
Nations Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones Unidas
para la
Agricultura y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE

Thirty-seventh Session

Rome, 25 June - 2 July 2011

Fourth Report of the General Committee

I. Appointment of the Director-General

1. The General Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../2011

Appointment of the Director-General

THE CONFERENCE,

Acting in accordance with Article VII of the Constitution,

Having proceeded to a secret ballot as laid down in Rules XII and XXXVII of the General Rules of the Organization,

- 1) **Declares** that Mr José Graziano da Silva is appointed to the office of Director General for a period from 1 January 2012, the term of office expiring on 31 July 2015; and

Having considered the recommendation regarding the conditions of appointment of the Director-General submitted by the General Committee in accordance with Rules X, paragraph 2(j) and XXXVII, paragraph 4 of the General Rules of the Organization,

- 2) **Resolves** that:

- a) the Director-General shall receive a gross annual salary of USD 251 188, corresponding to a net annual salary of USD 176 272 at the dependency rate, or USD 156,760 at the single rate, and an annual post adjustment corresponding to USD 1 762.72 for each multiplier point at the dependency rate, or USD 1 567.60 at the single rate, payable in accordance with the provisions of the Organization governing the salary of staff members;
- b) the Director-General shall receive a representation allowance of USD 50 000 net per annum;
- c) the Organization will directly rent appropriate housing accommodation to be assigned as the official residence of the Director-General and pay related expenses, in lieu of rental subsidy;

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d) the Director-General shall be entitled to all other allowances and benefits accruing to staff members of the Organization in the Professional and Higher Categories;

3) **Further resolves** that the Director-General (option A: shall be a participant in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund; option B: shall not be a participant in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and that, in lieu thereof, he shall be entitled to receive, in monthly instalments, the equivalent of the Organization's contributions to the Fund that would have been payable had he been a participant, as a supplement to his monthly remuneration); and

4) **Further resolves** that the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations subject, however, to the provisions of the contract to be signed by the Chairperson of the Conference on behalf of the Organization and by the Director-General elect, in accordance with Rule XXXVII, paragraph 4.

(Adopted ____ June 2011)

2. In relation to operative paragraph 2 c) of the resolution on the appointment of the Director-General, the General Committee recommended that the overall costs of rental of the Director-General's housing accommodation and related expenses to be covered by the Organization should not exceed Euro 180 000 per year. The Finance Committee may review this ceiling of expenditure.

3. The General Committee noted that the Director-General's contract provides for the submission of a financial disclosure statement and should require that the Director-General be subject to the policies and rules of the Organization regarding acceptance of honors, gifts and gratuities, in line with the report of the 2009 Joint Inspection Unit Report on the selection and conditions of service of Executive Heads in the United Nations System Organizations (JIU/REP/2009/8).

II. Voting Rights

4. At its first meeting (Saturday, 25 June 2011), the General Committee noted that **13** Member Nations had not paid sufficient amounts of their assessed contributions to retain their vote in the Conference. Since then the following changes outlined in paragraphs 5 - 13 have taken place.

5. **Two** Member Nations (Antigua and Barbuda and Turkmenistan) have not requested special consideration and have not registered at the Conference.

6. **One** Member Nation attending the Session (Tajikistan) has not requested restoration of voting rights nor advised that payment was in process. The Committee noted that Tajikistan had effectively lost its voting rights.

7. The Committee was also informed that Comoros had registered late for the Conference, and that it had not submitted a written request for consideration of restoration of voting rights in accordance with Article III.4 of the FAO Constitution. The Secretariat had actively followed up with the delegation of this country, but to date no request for restoration of voting rights has been received from the Comoros. The Committee noted that Comoros had effectively lost its voting rights.

8. Confirmation has been received that **one** Member Nation (Sierra Leone) has made a payment that regularizes its voting position.

9. **Eight** Member Nations have requested special consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution and permission to vote:

- Dominican Republic - letters dated 6, 15 and 21 June 2011 referring respectively to difficult macro-economic circumstances caused by the global financial crisis and partial payments of its debt (GC 2011/INF/1)
- Somalia - letter dated 8 June 2011 citing constraints of a difficult economic situation (GC 2011/INF/2)

- Peru - letter dated 20 May 2011 citing efforts made to clear debts for 2007 and 2008 (GC 2011/INF/4)
- Sao Tome and Principe - letter dated 17 June 2011 referring to difficulties of various magnitudes (GC 2011/INF/6)
- Guinea Bissau - letter dated 18 June 2011 citing political and economic instability and fragility of governance, inflationary pressure following the food crisis and price hikes and loss of tax and customs revenue (GC 2011/INF/7)
- Liberia - letter received 21 June 2011 citing the extremely tight financial situation and debt burden (GC 2011/INF/8);
- Kyrgyzstan- letter dated 22 June 2011 citing serious socio-economic constraints and internal political strife (GC 2011/INF/9)
- Palau – letter dated 21 June 2011 (received on 27 June 2011) citing financial constraints and requirements of local bank that did not allow to meet deadline (GC 2011/INF/11).

10. After a case-by-case evaluation of the eight petitions, the General Committee recommends that voting rights should be restored to **five** Member Nations (Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Somalia, Kyrgyzstan and Sao Tome and Principe).

11. Furthermore, **two** of the Member Nations currently with voting rights problems, Sao Tome and Principe and Kyrgyzstan, have proposed to repay their arrears according to instalment plans. The Committee recommended that the instalment plan submitted by Sao Tome and Principe be approved in its Third Report. It now recommends that the Conference adopt the draft resolution endorsing the instalment plan submitted by Kyrgyzstan (*Appendix A*).

12. Further to its meeting of 26 June with a representative of Peru concerning its written communication of 20 May 2011 requesting the restoration of voting rights in accordance with Article III.4 of the FAO Constitution, the Committee reviewed a letter from Peru of 27 June giving additional details. The Committee agreed to restore voting rights to Peru on the basis of the additional information provided.

13. The Committee was informed that Dominican Republic and Palau had not provided additional input following their written requests for consideration of restoration of voting rights. The Secretariat continues to follow up with representatives of both countries.

III. Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

14. The General Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following resolution:

Resolution .../2011

Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

THE CONFERENCE,

Having proceeded to a secret ballot, in accordance with Rule XII.10(a) of the General Rules of the Organization;

Taking into account Rule XXIII of the General Rules of the Organization regarding the Independent Chairperson of the Council and Resolution 9/2009 on Implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action on the Independent Chairperson of the Council;

Having regard to the need to safeguard the independence and accountability of the role of the Independent Chairperson of the Council:

1. **Declares** that _____ is appointed Independent Chairperson of the Council until the Thirty-eighth Session of the Conference (____ 2013);
2. **Decides** that the conditions of appointment attached to the office of the Independent Chairperson of the Council will be as follows:
 - a) The Chairperson is required to be present in Rome for all sessions of the Council, the Conference, the Finance Committee and the Programme Committee and will normally be expected to spend at least six to eight months of the year in Rome;
 - b) An annual allowance equivalent to USD 23 800 will be paid to the Chairperson;
 - c) A per diem allowance equivalent to the applicable standard daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rate at 140% will be paid to the Chairperson while he is in Rome and when he travels in the performance of his functions;
 - d) The travel expenses of the Chairperson will be covered by the Organization when he travels in the performance of his functions;
 - e) In the performance of his functions, whether in Rome or while travelling, the Chairperson will receive health protection and medical insurance in accordance with Section 343 Part VII of the FAO Administrative Manual;
 - f) Secretariat services will be made available to the Chairperson to assist him in the performance of his functions;
 - g) Interpretation services will be made available to the Chairperson, at his request, depending on the availability of resources;
 - h) Office space, equipment and supplies required by the Chairperson in the performance of his functions will be made available to him;
 - i) Assistance will be provided to the Chairperson in carrying out the necessary administrative formalities for the acquisition of the documents required for his stay in Rome and for his travels in the performance of his functions.
3. **Decides** that the implementation modalities of this Resolution will be agreed between the Chairperson and FAO.

(Adopted on _____ 2011)

IV. Jacques Diouf Award

15. The General Committee considered the proposal of initiating a Jacques Diouf Award to be made every biennium to an institution or an individual which has made a significant contribution for the improvement of global food security. The Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../2011

Jacques Diouf Award for Food Security

THE CONFERENCE,

Appreciating the eminent services rendered by Dr Jacques Diouf to the Organization throughout his three terms as Director-General, a period during which the world was faced with food insecurity, food price instability and climate change challenges of exceptional magnitude and unprecedented complexity;

Recalling that under the able guidance of Dr Jacques Diouf, the Organization has taken major steps towards solving these problems by ensuring that agriculture is back on the global agenda, as exemplified by its many initiatives towards world food security and enhanced nutritional status. Major achievements include the convening of summits and conferences on food security and sustainable agriculture and rural development, most importantly the World Food Summit of 1996; the special programmes for food security prepared at national level and implemented to help small farmers increase productivity and production, often with the benefit of South-South Cooperation; the National

Medium-Term Investment Programmes and Bankable Investment Project Profiles prepared in the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); the programme for Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES) for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases including the collaborative process to eradicate rinderpest; and the significant international treaties and instruments that have been concluded under FAO auspices, including the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the revised Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.

Recognizing Dr Jacques Diouf's strong commitment to reform and the initiatives taken throughout his tenure to enhance the Organization's capacity to better play its part in defeating hunger and attaining food security;

Expressing its deep gratitude to Dr Jacques Diouf for his outstanding services to the Organization, and for his unfailing dedication to the aims and ideals of FAO:

- 1) **Decides** that a "Jacques Diouf Award for Food Security" be established as a continuing tribute to Dr Jacques Diouf;
- 2) **Agrees** that the terms and conditions of the Jacques Diouf Award for Food Security be as follows:
 - a) *Eligibility to the award:* individuals or institutions, either national or regional, can be nominated for the award if they have, in the course of the biennium preceding the Conference, made a significant contribution for the improvement of global food security;
 - b) *Nature of the award:* the award will consist of a scroll describing the recipient's achievements, a medal inscribed with the name of the recipient, and a cash prize in the amount of USD 25 000;
 - c) *Selection of winners:* the winners will be chosen by a Selection Committee chaired by the Director-General and comprising the Independent Chairperson of the Council, the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and the Chairperson of the Programme Committee. The Committee will make its selection from a short-list of three nominations drawn up by an ad hoc interdepartmental Screening Committee.
 - d) *Conferment of the award:* the award will be presented by the Director-General at each regular session of the Conference to the individual recipient or a representative of the recipient institution, who will be invited to FAO Headquarters in Rome for the ceremony, with the Organization bearing the cost of travel and per diem.

(Adopted ____ June 2011)

Appendix A**Resolution .../2011*****Payment of Contributions – Kyrgyzstan*****THE CONFERENCE,**

Noting that the Government of Kyrgyzstan had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of fourteen years commencing in 2012 in addition to paying each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment,

Decides that:

- 1) Notwithstanding Financial Regulation 5.5 the arrears of contributions of Kyrgyzstan totalling USD 870 801.26 and EUR 1 832.40 shall be settled through the payment of fourteen annual instalments of USD 62 200.09 and EUR 130.89 each from 2012 to 2025
- 2) The first instalment shall be payable in 1 January 2012.
- 3) The annual payment of the instalments referred to above, together with the payment of each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment and any advances to the Working Capital Fund, shall be considered as fulfilment of the financial obligations of Kyrgyzstan to the Organization.
- 4) Instalments shall be payable in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5.
- 5) Default in payment of two instalments shall render this instalment plan null and void.

(Adopted June 2011)