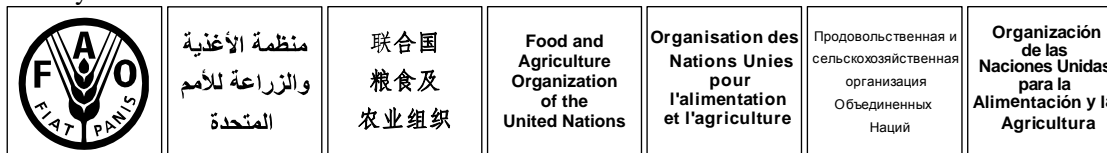


January 2012



FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

Thirty-first Session

Hanoi, Viet Nam, 12 – 16 March 2012

Agenda Item 14

Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-15 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

I. Overall Objectives

1. The objectives reflect the enhanced role of Regional Conferences in the governance process of FAO. In particular, the Regional Conference reviews the situation in the Region regarding matters pertaining to the Organization's mandate, and provides advice and action-oriented recommendations to the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, and to the Council on matters pertaining to the priorities, programmes and budgets of the Organization.
2. In this context, the Regional Conference provides regional perspectives on FAO's strategies and priorities and formulates concrete recommendations on regional activities, also contributing to enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. It also conducts regional-level assessments, to feed into improved sustainability of agriculture and food security. It exercises oversight of the functions and activities of FAO in the region, in accordance with the Basic Texts of the Organization. It operates efficiently and effectively, collaborating where appropriate with relevant partner organizations.
3. The technical commissions of the region review technical aspects and issues of importance in the areas of Fisheries (APFIC), Forestry (APFC), Agricultural Statistics (APCAS), Plant Protection (APPPC) and Animal Production and Health (APHCA). Their recommendations complement and inform the discussions during the APRC on the Programme of Work, and the Regional Priority Framework.

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II. Results

A. Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

4. Result 1: Regional Conference recommendations and guidance on regional priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budgets, as well as on the issues pertaining to food security, agriculture and rural development in the region, provide a sound basis for decision-making by the Council and the Conference, as appropriate.

5. Indicators and targets:

- Clear and specific recommendations made by the Regional Conference to the Council through the Programme and Finance Committees regarding FAO's priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budgets in the Region, as appropriate, with relevant indicators. Indicators should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound (SMART).
- Regional Conference recommendations relating to the Regional Priority Framework, the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan (MTP) and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB), are reflected in the Council and Conference reports.
- Regional Conference guidance on regional issues receives due attention in the Council and Conference, as well as in other relevant bodies.

6. Output:

- Clear, precise and action-oriented recommendations for Council on priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budget for the Region.

7. Activities:

- Review implementation of the Regional Priority Framework and the PWB in the Region.
- Review decisions and recommendations from the Regional Technical Commissions, and other relevant institutions and meetings in the Region.
- Review the performance of the Organization in the Region, including the completion of CPFs and the effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking account of related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations.
- Make recommendations on the plans, programmes and projects carried out by the Organization in the Region, including specific priorities for FAO's work in the region.

8. Working methods:

- Liaison with relevant statutory bodies, including the regional technical commissions and other institutions in the Region.
- Informal consultations among member countries as appropriate to foster dialogue during the intersession period.
- Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the ADG/Regional Representative, including for informal coordination meetings with the Secretariats of the regional technical commissions.

B. Monitoring of, and advice on, policy and regulatory matters

9. Result 2: Regional Conference recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory matters.

10. Indicators and targets:

- Clear, action-oriented recommendations included in the Regional Conference report.
- Regional Conference recommendations taken up by the FAO Conference.

11. Output:

- Clear recommendations for the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory frameworks.

12. Activities:

- Review the status of key international instruments of relevance to the Region, and major developments and initiatives in other fora impacting on the mandate of FAO.
- Consider the recommendations from FAO statutory bodies, including the regional technical commissions, and other meetings of relevance to the Region.
- Address new and emerging issues and recommend possible concerted action by FAO and other relevant bodies in the Region.
- Consider the desirability of developing international agreements for the Region.

13. Working methods:

- Review of regional and global trends in policies and regulations of relevance to the Region.
- Liaison with relevant FAO statutory bodies and other institutions in the Region.
- Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the ADG/Regional Representative, including for informal coordination meetings with the Secretariats of the regional technical commissions.

C. Work planning and working methods

14. Result 3: The Regional Conference operates effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.

15. Indicators and targets:

- Regional Conference agendas are focused.
- Regional Conference decisions are taken by consensus.
- Regional Conference reports are concise, consisting mostly of specific, action-oriented recommendations, and are made available to Members in a timely manner.
- Regional Conference documents adhere to new corporate presentation standards and are made available in the required languages four weeks before the session commences.
- Seventy percent of countries participate at a senior level in the Conference.

16. Outputs:

- Multi-year Programme of Work for the Regional Conference (MYPOW) adopted in 2012.
- Progress report on the Regional Conference MYPOW provided in 2014.
- Methods of work of the Regional Conference kept under review and improvements sought regularly.

17. Activities:

- Consult with Members on agenda and format of the Regional Conference.
- Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including enhanced focus and efficient use of the time available.
- Review Rules of Procedure for the Conference.
- Preparation of the MYPOW, with performance indicators and progress reports to Council and Conference on the MYPOW.
- Regular review of methods of work, including performance measures.
- Review of the status of implementation of the Regional Conference recommendations.

18. Working methods:

- Consult with Members, through the Chairperson of the Regional Conference.
- Inter-sessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson the Regional Conference through the Bureau, with support from the Secretariat.
- Structured and focused deliberations and interventions during sessions.
- Efficient drafting arrangements for reports.
- Secretariat support for the implementation of, and follow up to, the MYPOW.
- Informal meetings of the Chairpersons of the Regional Groups and senior members of the Secretariat, facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of Council.