

May 2014



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة للأمم  
المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

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  
Alimentación y la  
Agricultura

# Regional Conference for Europe

## TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

**Bucharest, Romania, 2 - 4 April 2014**

### Provisional Annotated Agenda

#### I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. **Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of Rapporteur:**  
*for decision*
2. **Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable:** *for decision* (ERC/14/1 Rev 4,  
ERC/14/INF/2 Rev 3 and ERC/14/INF/10)
3. **Statement by the Director-General** (ERC/14/INF/4)
4. **Statement by the Independent Chairman of the FAO Council** (ERC/14/INF/5)
5. **Statement by the Chairperson of the 28<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference for Europe**  
(ERC/14/INF/6)

The statement of the Chairperson of the 28<sup>th</sup> ERC will provide a brief overview on the outcome of the deliberations of the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference (Rome, 15 - 22 June 2013) and the 144<sup>th</sup> FAO Council (11 - 15 June 2012) on matters related to the European Region.

#### II. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATORY ISSUES

6. **State of food and agriculture in the Region, including future prospects and emerging issues:** *for discussion and decision* (ERC/14/2)

Various indicators and trends of food insecurity and malnutrition in the Region will be analysed and discussed, along with the role of investment, subsidies, public goods and gender in addressing emerging issues. Government actions in these areas, including those emanating from various global initiatives, as well as the FAO Conference, will also be examined with a view to learning lessons and deriving best practices for the Region.

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7. **Ministerial Round Table - Food Losses and Waste in Europe and Central Asia:**  
*for discussion and decision (ERC/14/3)*

The item was requested by the Regional Conference for Europe 2012. The documentation will improve understanding of underlying causes of food losses and waste (FLW) along selected food supply chains in developing countries of Europe and Central Asia and raise awareness on the need for introduction of appropriate policy interventions to mitigate the impact of FLW on food security and incomes of smallholders in the region. The analysis will build up on previous and ongoing FAO work on FLW. Regional dimension of the study will be based on country case studies and analysis of critical loss points along the priority food supply chains. Based on the information and findings obtained by analysis, a synthesis, which consists of policy options and recommendations for reduction of FLW in Europe and Central Asia will be prepared, presented and validated at the regional expert consultation on food losses and waste. The outcome of all these activities will be integrated and summarised in the paper prepared for ERC 2014. Member countries are requested to discuss the policy recommendations and to endorse the recommendations for further action at the country and the regional level.

8. **Outcomes of the Committee on World Food Security (in 2012-2013) and update on its major workstreams:** *for information (ERC/14/4)*

The CFS Chair will address the Ministerial session and provide an overview of the main outcomes of the 38<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> Plenary Sessions, reporting on activities undertaken in 2012-2013. The Chair will emphasise the need to strengthen linkages between CFS and the regions, and highlight the main findings of the multi-stakeholder dialogue held on 30 March 2014 in Bucharest..

9. **International Year of Family Farming (IYFF) in Europe and Central Asia:** *for discussion (ERC/14/5)*

The 66<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly<sup>1</sup> of the United Nations, declared 2014 as the “International Year of Family Farming” (IYFF) and invited FAO to facilitate its implementation. The secretariat will provide a background paper regarding the activities and the process related to IYFF and awareness raising at the country level. The document will also highlight the main issues and linkages of Family Farming as a cross-sectoral issue and as one of the main drivers for agriculture development in the Region. It is expected that in the final paper there are recommendations from the consultation process in the Region reflected, which should form the basis for the global consultation process later in 2014. The member countries may, under this item, present their views in order to agree on a common position for the Region to facilitate FAO’s further work in this context, in relation to the implementation of the Strategic Framework.

### III. PROGRAMME AND BUDGET MATTERS

10. **Decentralization and Decentralized Offices Network:** *for discussion and decision (ERC/14/6)*

Ongoing efforts to improve and strengthen the work of FAO’s country offices network in the Region will be reviewed and recommendations formulated to enhance the Organization’s effectiveness and efficiency at country level.

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<sup>1</sup> C 2013/REP para 89 refers.

11. **Priorities for FAO Activities in the Region:** *for discussion and decision (ERC/14/LIM/1, ERC/14/7 Rev 1 and ERC/14/7 (Web Annex))*

The Regional Conference will consider how FAO activities have addressed previously agreed regional priorities during 2012-13 and will provide guidance on areas of regional priority for 2014-15 and 2016-17. The Conference will be informed of the findings and recommendations of the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the ECA – based on the function of the ECA as a preparatory meeting – which will take into consideration FAO’s Reviewed Strategic Framework 2010-19, Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15 approved by the FAO Conference in June 2013; priorities and recommendations of the Regional Technical Commissions; a synthesis of Country Programming Frameworks; and the plans and priorities of partners, such as Regional Economic Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector.

#### IV. OTHER MATTERS

12. **Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW):** *for discussion and decision (ERC/14/8)*

The ERC 2012 asked the Secretariat to review and fine tune the MYPOW in consultation with the member countries.

13. **FAO Governance in the Region and Rules of Procedure for the Regional Conferences:** *for discussion and decision (ERC/14/9, ERC/14/10 and ERC/14/LIM/3)*

The 146<sup>th</sup> Council welcomed the Evaluation of FAO’s Regional and Sub-regional Offices for Europe and Central Asia and its management Response, and endorsed the recommendations of the Programme Committee in this regard. In particular, the Council called on the 2014 European Regional Conference to discuss Governance issues raised in the Evaluation.<sup>2</sup>

Based on the outcomes of the ERC 2012, the ERC recommended to prepare detailed Rules of Procedure (RoP) for the ERC, in order to have a clear basis and understanding regarding the function.

14. **Report from the outcome of the debate of the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture (ECA):** *for discussion and decision (ERC/14/LIM/2)*

The Rapporteur of the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture (ECA), which takes place on 1-2 April 2014, will provide a summary report from the deliberations of the sessions.

15. **Date, Place and Main Theme(s) of the 30<sup>th</sup> FAO Regional Conference for Europe:** *for decision*

16. **Any other business**

**Review and endorsement of the Report of the Conference**

The draft Report, introduced by Rapporteur, will be reviewed, discussed and eventually endorsed.

**Closure of the Conference**

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<sup>2</sup> CL 146/REP para 18 refers <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/028/mg569e.pdf>

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### INFORMATION NOTES<sup>3</sup>

#### **Summary Report of the recommendations of the European Forestry Commission (EFC) (ERC/14/INF/7)**

The agenda item will report on the outcomes of the joint session of the UNECE Timber Commission and the European Forestry Commission, which takes place on 9-13 December 2013 in Rovaniemi, Finland.

#### **Summary report of the recommendations of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) and COFI and Importance of Fisheries for the Europe and Central Asia Region (ERC/14/INF/9 and ERC/14/INF/9 Corr 1)**

The report of the regional fisheries and aquaculture commissions will be presented to the ERC including other Regional Bodies, such as the Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission.

#### **The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) (ERC/14/INF/11)**

The ICN2 is a positive pro-active global policy response by FAO to tackle unacceptably high and persistent levels of malnutrition. The high level conference will be held in FAO headquarters Rome 19-21 November 2014. This document aims at increasing the understanding of ERC members on the objectives and intended outcomes of the conference.

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<sup>3</sup> If they wish, delegates may comment on information notes under “Any other business”.