

February 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

FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE NEAR EAST

Thirty-second Session

Rome, 24-28 February 2014

**Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-15 (MYPOW) for the FAO Regional
Conference for the Near East**

Executive Summary

In conformity with the Implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) regarding improvement of governing bodies, the Regional Conferences prepare a Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) covering a period of at least four years. A MYPOW for the NERC was prepared for the 31st Session of the NERC. The members adopted the MYPOW in 2012.

The version presented below is a slightly revised version of the MYPOW 2012-2015.

Guidance sought:

The NERC may wish to endorse the revised MYPOW 2012 - 2015

I. Overall Objectives

1. The overall 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.

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
a FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



mj539e

2. In this context, the Regional Conference for the Near East (NERC) 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 regional commissions review technical aspects and issues of importance in the areas of agriculture, land and water (ALAWUC), forestry and range (NEFRC), fisheries and aquaculture (RECOFI and GFCM) and desert locust (CRC). Their recommendations complement and inform the discussions during NERC on the Programme of Work and Regional Priority Framework.

II. RESULTS

A. Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

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

5. Indicators and targets:

- Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by the Regional Conference to the Council through the Programme and Finance Committees regarding FAO's priorities, programmes, initiatives, organizational structure and budgets of interest to the Region, as appropriate, with relevant indicators.
- 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 FAO Council and Conference reports.
- Regional Conference guidance on regional issues receives due attention in the FAO Council and Conference, as well as in other relevant bodies.

6. Outputs:

- Clear, precise and consensual 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 commissions and other relevant institutions and meetings in the Region.
- Review the performance of the Organization in the Region, including effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking account of related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations.
- Advise on the plans, programmes and projects carried out by the Organization in the Region, including specific priorities for FAO's work.

8. Working methods:

- Liaison with relevant statutory bodies, including the regional commissions and other institutions in the Region.
- Informal consultations among member countries as appropriate to foster dialogue during the intersession period.
- Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the Near East Regional Group.

- Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the ADG/Regional Representative.

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

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

10. Indicators and targets:

- Clear and timely 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 regional commissions, and 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.
- Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the Near East Regional Group.
- Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the ADG/Regional Representative.

C. Work planning and working methods

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

15. Indicators and targets:

- Regional Conference agendas are focused.
- 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 six weeks before the session commences.
- Member countries generally participate at the appropriate level in the Regional Conference.

16. Outputs:

- Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for the Regional Conference adopted in 2014.
- Progress report on the Regional Conference MYPOW provided at the last Council session of the biennium¹.

¹ See document CL, 148/9, paragraphs 25-26; <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/029/MJ274E.PDF>

- 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 the Rules of Procedure for the Regional Conference.
- Preparation of the MYPOW, with performance indicators and progress reports on the MYPOW to the FAO Council and Conference.
- Regular review of methods of work, including performance measures.
- Review of the status of implementation of the Regional Conference recommendations.

18. Working methods:

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