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منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة للأمم
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联合国
粮食及
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Food and
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et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
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Organización
de las
Naciones Unidas
para la
Alimentación y la
Agricultura

REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

Bucharest, Romania, 2 - 4 April 2014

Agenda Item 11

Report from the outcome of the debate of the 38th Session of the European Commission on Agriculture on item 3 - Priorities for FAO Activities in the Region

1. The Thirty-eighth Session of the European Commission of Agriculture (ECA) considered the report on Priorities for FAO Activities in the Europe and Central Asia Region, covering achievements in 2012-13 and the proposals for 2014-15 and beyond.
2. The Commission:
 - a) appreciated the major actions carried out by FAO to address the regional priorities during the 2012-13 biennium, including actions taken in response to the recommendations of the previous Session;
 - b) took note of the lessons learned from this experience, particularly the pilot regional initiative on agrarian structures in 2013;
 - c) endorsed the relevance of the existing regional priorities for FAO's work in the region also for 2014-15, noting that close alignment of regional priorities with FAO's new Strategic Objectives;

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a FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



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- d) supported the two Regional Initiatives: i) Empowering small holders and family farms for improved rural livelihoods and poverty reduction; and ii) Agri-food trade and regional integration, as a means to further focus FAO's work for country-level impact and for resource mobilisation within the Programme of Work and Budget 2014-2015 and Medium-Term Plan 2014-2017. FAO work on trade-related issues in the region requires a cautious and balanced approach.
- e) supported the other major areas of work in the region: i) control of animal disease, plant pests and food safety hazards and emergencies; ii) natural resource management including fisheries and forestry, climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as iii) conservation of plant and animal genetic resources for sustainable use;
- f) emphasized FAO's important role as neutral and inclusive forum for policy discussions and technical advice based on sound knowledge;
- g) underlined the need for continuity in the strategic direction and leadership of the Organization in order to realise the full impact of the reviewed Strategic Framework;
- h) appreciated the substantial increase in extra-budgetary funds utilized for implementation during 2012-13 and emphasized the need to mobilize additional resources in the region to implement the Regional Initiatives and the Country Programming Frameworks, including their finalization. The Commission stressed that all extra-budgetary funds should be used in line with the new Strategic Framework and Regional Priorities;
- i) looked forward to being kept informed of resource allocations and achievements in the region during the course of the biennium;
- j) called on FAO to concentrate on the identified focus countries and ensure efficient use of resources by working together with other organisations, civil society and building public private partnerships;
- k) requested FAO to address food security more prominently including food security assessments, in line with the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to adequate Food in the context of National Food Security and recalled the importance of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of national food security
- l) Stressed the importance of capacity development of all actors along the value chain, including vulnerable groups, women and rural youth, and making documents and material available in the Russian language.