

REPORT

Dhaka, Bangladesh 8-11 March 2022 (hybrid)

Thirty-sixth Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

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FAO Member Nations in the Asia and the Pacific Region

AfghanistanKazakhstanPhilippinesAustraliaKiribatiRepublic of KoreaBangladeshLao People's Democratic RepublicRussian Federation

Bhutan Malaysia Samoa Brunei-Darussalam Maldives Singapore Cambodia Marshall Islands Solomon Islands Micronesia (Federated States of) Sri Lanka China Cook Islands Mongolia Thailand Democratic People's Republic Myanmar Timor-Leste of Korea Nauru Tonga Fiji Nepal Tuvalu

France New Zealand United States of America

IndiaNiueUzbekistanIndonesiaPakistanVanuatuIran (Islamic Republic of)PalauViet Nam

Japan Papua New Guinea

Date and place of the Sessions of the FAO Regional Conferences for Asia and the Pacific

First - Bangalore, India, 27 July – 5 August 1953

Second - Kandy, Ceylon, 20-25 June 1955
Third - Bandung, Indonesia, 8-18 October 1956
Fourth - Tokyo, Japan, 6-16 October 1958

Fifth - Saigon, Republic of Viet Nam, 21-30 November 1960
Sixth - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 15-29 September 1962
Seventh - Manila, Philippines, 7-21 November 1964
Eighth - Seoul, Republic of Korea, 15-24 September 1966

Ninth - Bangkok, Thailand, 4-15 November 1968

Tenth - Canberra, Australia, 27 August – 8 September 1970

Eleventh - New Delhi, India, 17-27 October 1972
Twelfth - Tokyo, Japan, 17-27 September 1974
Thirteenth - Manila, Philippines, 5-13 August 1976

Fourteenth - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 25 July – 3 August 1978

Fifteenth - New Delhi, India, 5-13 March 1980 Sixteenth - Jakarta, Indonesia, 1-11 June 1982

Seventeenth - Islamabad, Pakistan, 24 April – 3 May 1984

Eighteenth - Rome, Italy, 8-17 July 1986

Nineteenth
- Bangkok, Thailand, 11-15 July 1988
Twentieth
- Beijing, China, 23-27 April 1990
Twenty-first
- New Delhi, India, 10-14 February 1992
Twenty-second
Twenty-third
- Apia, Western Samoa, 14-18 May 1996
Twenty-fourth
- Yangon, Myanmar, 20-24 April 1998

Twenty-fifth - Yokohama, Japan, 28 August-1 September 2000

Twenty-sixth - Kathmandu, Nepal, 13-15 May 2002
Twenty-seventh - Beijing, China, 17-21 May 2004
Twenty-eighth - Jakarta, Indonesia, 15-19 May 2006
Twenty-ninth - Bangkok, Thailand, 26-31 March 2009

Thirtieth - Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, 27 September-1 October 2010

Thirty-first - Hanoi, Viet Nam, 12-16 March 2012 Thirty-second - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 10-14 March 2014 Thirty-third - Putrajaya, Malaysia, 7-11 March 2016

Thirty-fourth - Nadi, Fiji, 9-13 April 2018

Thirty-fifth - Thimphu, Bhutan, 1-4 September 2020 (virtual)
Thirty-sixth - Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-11 March 2022 (hybrid)

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SUMMARY OF MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

MATTERS REQUIRING THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- Results and priorities for FAO activities in the region (Paragraphs 32 i, ii, iii, v, ix and 33 i-ix)
- Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change (Paragraphs 34 ii, iii and 35 i-iii)
- Update on the development of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (Paragraph 36 i, ii, v, vi and 37 i-iv)
- Prioritization of country and regional needs (Paragraphs 38, 41, 42 and 46-52)
- Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Paragraph 62)
- Date and place of the 36th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Paragraph 63)

MATTERS REQUIRING THE ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE

- State of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific region, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (Paragraphs 21 iii, vi and 22 ii-iv)
- Actions to promote climate resilient agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region (Paragraphs 23 iii, iv, vii, viii and 24 i-v)
- Scaling up inclusive digitalization in agricultural value chains (Paragraphs 25 iii and 26 i, iii, iv)
- Identifying One Health priorities in Asia and the Pacific region (Paragraphs 27 iv-v and 28 i, iv, v)
- Conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity for food security and nutrition in the Pacific Islands (Paragraphs 29 ii, iv and 30 i, iii)

I. Introductory Items

Organization of the Regional Conference

1. The 36th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC) was held from 8 to 11 March 2022. After formal consultation with the host country Bangladesh, as well as the Asia and the South-West Pacific Regional Groups, the meeting was convened in hybrid modality on an exceptional basis, and without creating a precedent, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns, with some representatives attending in person in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and others participating virtually. The APRC was organized in two parts: the Senior Officers Meeting (SOM) from 8 to 9 March and the Ministerial Session from 10 to 11 March.

2. Representatives from 42 Member Nations participated in the Regional Conference. Representatives of 76 non-Member Nations, United Nations and specialized agencies of the United Nations, international governmental and non-governmental organizations, also attended as observers.

The Regional Conference and Inaugural Ceremonies

- 3. Mr Md Sayedul Islam, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh and Mr Jong-Jin Kim, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative of FAO, presented opening addresses.
- 4. Mr Md Sayedul Islam, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh welcomed delegates and participants to the hybrid APRC and formally opened the SOM. Noting that this was the first fully hybrid Regional Conference and that this has presented technical challenges in its organization, he highlighted that this also meant that there was a benefit in enabling a far broader participation in the APRC and that this would increase the transparency and understanding of the work of the Regional Conference. He also noted that the Regional Conference would deliberate matters that were directly related to the need for agrifood system transformation, to make them more sustainable and climate resilient and ensure healthy diets for all, and to address the impacts of climate change, the degradation of the environment and biodiversity and the consequent threats to human, animal and plant health, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5. Mr Jong-Jin Kim, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative of FAO, appreciated the strong support of the Government of Bangladesh for hosting the meeting under the challenging conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked the Government of Bangladesh for their leadership and collaboration in organizing the hybrid conference. He noted that Asia and the Pacific region was showing signs of emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic and FAO was exploring the way forward to build back better, following the damage to economies, lives and livelihoods. Referring to the newly adopted FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, he noted the alignment with the updated regional priorities and looked forward to the Members interventions and suggestions on how these could contribute to agrifood systems transformation in the region.
- 6. The inaugural ceremony of the Ministerial Meeting was held on 10 March 2022. The Honourable Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, welcomed delegates and participants to the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific. The Honourable Prime Minister noted that agriculture remains the main source of employment in the country, providing livelihoods to 40 percent of the labour force, of which nearly half are women. Since independence, Bangladesh has been transforming agriculture for the economic emancipation of farmers, to increase agricultural productivity and contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP). With the political commitment of the present Government, the country has achieved national food self-sufficiency, which was recognized by FAO in 1999 with the award of the 'Ceres Medal'. The Honourable Prime Minister stressed that despite this success, Bangladesh remains one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and was also seriously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. To address these and other challenges, Bangladesh is committed to developing its agriculture sector to enable it to become more climate resilient, modern and to increase commercial output with an emphasis on diversification of food production, processing and value-addition. Access to financial services for farmers of all scales

has improved and steps have been taken to give them greater digital access to information. The upgrading of policies and laws for the development of agriculture and for the welfare of farmers have supported these changes. Highlighting that the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated how cooperation can overcome global challenges, the Honourable Prime Minister encouraged greater regional collaboration amongst the countries in the field of agricultural research, sharing of cutting-edge technologies and creating a 'special fund' for increased investments for agricultural development, and declared the Regional Conference open.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, and appointment of the Rapporteur

- 7. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> Mr Md Sayedul Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh as the Chairperson of the SOM.
- 8. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> the physically present Heads of Delegations (Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal) as the Vice-Chairpersons of the SOM.
- 9. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> Mr Govinda Prasad Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Nepal, to serve as the Rapporteur of the SOM.
- 10. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> the Honourable Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP, Minister for Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh, as the Chairperson of the Ministerial Session.
- 11. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> the physically present Ministers (Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka) as the Vice-Chairpersons of the Ministerial Session.
- 12. Delegates unanimously <u>elected</u> Dr William Dar, Secretary, Department of Agriculture of the Philippines to serve as the Rapporteur of the Ministerial Session.

Adoption of the Agenda

13. The Regional Conference <u>adopted</u> the Agenda which is given in *Appendix A*. Documents submitted to the Regional Conference are listed in *Appendix B*.

Statement of the Director-General

14. Dr QU Dongyu, Director-General of FAO, extended his gratitude to the Government and to the people of Bangladesh for hosting APRC 36 in extremely difficult conditions. He also extended his gratitude to the Honourable Mohammad Abdur Razzaque, MP, Minister for Agriculture of Bangladesh for his commitment and efficient Chairpersonship of APRC 36, and to all Ministers, delegates and participants of APRC 36. The Director-General highlighted the serious effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on all sectors, including food and agriculture, the slow and challenging recovery and the lessons offered by the pandemic, including the centrality of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the importance of our agrifood systems, and the need to transform these systems towards increased sustainability, resilience and efficiency. He highlighted the main elements of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its alignment to the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. The Director-General emphasized that the four regional priorities for FAO in Asia and the Pacific region respond to the needs of the region expressed during the wide consultation process with the countries. Noting that hunger, food insecurity and threats to agriculture are once again rising in the region, the Director-General reaffirmed his full commitment to following up on the recommendations emanating from the Regional Conference.

Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council

15. Mr Hans Hoogeveen, the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council, commented on the unique challenges facing Asia and the Pacific region and that the shortcomings of the global agrifood system are increasingly apparent. He emphasized the need for transformative change towards sustainable agrifood systems to achieve the SDGs by 2030, with actions needed to address rapidly

increasing diet-related health concerns, damage to ecosystems and the threat of climate change. He underscored the opportunities presented by digitalization of agriculture and the upscaling of agricultural innovations for transforming the region's agrifood systems towards greater sustainability, resilience, inclusiveness, and efficiency and the provision of better nutrition for all. Recalling the outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 and the role of the Coordination Hub hosted by FAO in the follow-up process, he noted that acceleration of progress towards achieving the SDGs can be supported by the provision of technical assistance at country level, and through science- and evidence-based support to policy-making.

Statement by the Chairperson of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

16. His Excellency Lyonpo Yeshe Penjor, Minister for Agriculture and Forests, Royal Government of Bhutan, Chairperson of the 35th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, congratulated the Government of Bangladesh for hosting the 36th Session of APRC. The Honourable Minister recalled the recommendations in the Report of the previous Session, that included need for resource allocation to address the issue of water scarcity and development of a regional high-level collaborative platform for sharing of best practices; the importance of improved resilience and adaptation to climate change in coastal fisheries and recognition of the dangers of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, to enable sustained benefits from coastal ecosystems and recovery from natural disasters; and building on FAO's normative and standard setting work with initiatives such as Hand-in-Hand, to support Members. Reflecting on the serious global situation given the last two years with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Honourable Minister emphasized that we have to move forward with hope, to build back better.

Statement on the Third Joint FAO and Pacific Community (SPC) Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry Meeting

17. The Honourable Mahendra Reddy, Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment of Fiji, delivered the statement to the Regional Conference on the communique of the Third Joint FAO and Pacific Community (SPC) Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry Meeting to be convened in September 2022 in Fiji. A meeting of Pacific Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services, supported by FAO and the Pacific Community (SPC) was held in August 2021 and a member-led and owned regional 'Pacific Agriculture and Forestry Strategy' was proposed for the region, to be taken up for discussion at the Ministerial Session. Food security emerged as a core concern of all governments in the region and that they were now finalizing food systems pathways for agrifood system transformation. The Honourable Minister concluded by noting that FAO hosting the Food Systems Coordination Hub is important to this transformation and requested FAO to continue providing technical support in collaboration with the other Rome-based Agencies.

Statement by the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

18. Mr Gabriel Ferrero, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), highlighted the role of CFS as an intergovernmental and multistakeholder policy platform on food security and nutrition, the synergy between FAO and CFS, and the relevance of the CFS work to the region. He encouraged Members to continue utilizing CFS outcomes in the formulation of their national policies, strategies, legislations, and regulatory frameworks. He also encouraged Members to support the use of existing CFS policy guidelines at national level and to using the CFS Global Platform to foster dialogue and achieve global consensus on complex, difficult issues, as well as showcase progress on national pathways.

Statement by the Spokesperson of the Civil Society Consultation

19. Mr Ahmed Borhan of the Asia Food Security Network (AFSN)-AHC for FAO Engagement on behalf of the CSO Consultation for the 36th Session of APRC welcomed the increasing focus on agrifood systems transformation that emphasises holistic health of ecosystems and One Health (OH). He emphasised that local and indigenous knowledge can provide solutions for sustainable agrifood

systems and livelihoods and that climate mitigation efforts, including nature-based solutions, must take local rights and land tenure into account and should not undermine existing local, sustainable solutions. Whilst recognising the benefits of increased rural digital connectivity, he expressed the need for caution with digitalisation of agriculture and stressed the need to ensure that smallholders rights and control over resources are protected. The development and access to open-source platforms to support this, together with improved digital literacy was emphasised. He concluded with recommendation to ensure that Indigenous Peoples, smallholders, small scale family farmers, fisherfolk, pastoralists, forest dwellers, women and rural youth, and local communities are effectively integrated into decision-making for agricultural development.

Statement by the Spokesperson of the Private Sector Consultation

20. Mr Reginald Lee, Director, Programs, Grow Asia, summarized the outcomes of the Private Sector Consultation for the Regional Conference. Highlighting the crucial role the private sector can play in the transformation of agrifood systems in achieving the SDGs, reducing inequalities and addressing the impacts of climate change, he elaborated areas that had been identified for action. Firstly, to promote scaling-up of inclusive digitalization in agricultural value chains, agri-tech and financing platforms. Secondly, to develop supporting country-level action to develop greater digital literacy and accessibility to digital platforms. Thirdly, to amplify the business case for women's economic empowerment to improve women's access to finance and technology. Finally, developing inclusive, market-driven impact pathways that reach the last mile through public-private-producer partnerships. Government and business support was needed to de-risk and co-fund collaborative investment in smallholder agriculture, coupled to enabling regulatory environments.

II. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Matters

A. State of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific region, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic

21. The Regional Conference:

- recognized that Asia and the Pacific region has been seriously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic from the lockdowns in 2020, the severe impacts of the COVID-19 variants in 2021 and 2022. However, the accelerated pace of vaccination against COVID-19 in the region is preparing it to move beyond pandemic mode and start the recovery phase from this hard-hitting pandemic;
- ii. <u>acknowledged</u> the economic toll of the pandemic in terms of gross domestic product (GDP) losses in 2020 and 2021, the rising food insecurity and poverty, and the uneven impacts across sectors and between urban and rural areas;
- iii. expressed concern about negative implications from the pandemic for achievement of Agenda 2030 and lost ground on several SDG targets, which already needed accelerated efforts even before the pandemic. Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through an integrated and multi-stakeholder response, including grass roots solutions from the region, based on the building back better principle, will be critical for achieving the SDGs;
- iv. <u>acknowledged</u> the challenges posed by the pandemic and that no one solution fits all and renewed commitment to a deep transformation of agrifood systems to regain the lost ground on food insecurity, malnutrition, poverty, and job losses;
- v. <u>emphasized</u> that the role of digitalization in transforming the agrifood systems to be more inclusive and climate resilient; and
- vi. <u>appreciated</u> FAO's excellent regional study on the COVID-19 impacts during the last two years and the synthesis of the COVID-19 effects on the macroeconomy, unemployment,

income, inflation and food prices, poverty and food insecurity, malnutrition and food supply chain disruption, and the varied government responses to mitigate the immediate health and economic impacts of the pandemic.

22. Recommended FAO to:

- i. continue its support to governments with policy advice, measures, tools, practices and programming to overcome the COVID-19 impacts and help design response and recovery programmes in the short and medium-term;
- ii. provide technical assistance and policy guidance for accelerating inclusive, sustainable agrifood transformation and robust agrifood supply chains resilient to future pandemics and other types of shocks, through closer alignment with sustainable, climate resilient and nutrition-sensitive investments:
- iii. support more efficient and transparent agrifood trade empowered through digital trade and e-commerce for the improved delivery of healthy and balanced diets and generation of diversified and decent livelihoods; and
- iv. support Members in building stronger and social protection systems, inclusive of the most vulnerable groups, to rebuild resilience, strengthen livelihoods and ensure better nutrition and food security under the principle of "leaving no one behind".

B. Actions to promote climate resilient agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region

23. The Regional Conference:

- i. <u>recognized</u> the importance of climate resilient agrifood systems for strengthening regional food security and nutrition;
- ii. noted that taking action to anticipate and adapt, but also to address, the drivers of future risks from climate change, will have lasting benefits;
- iii. <u>acknowledged</u> that early and sustained investment in the development and adoption of new technologies and practices is needed to strengthen agrifood system resilience;
- iv. reaffirmed the role of the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as a basis for action at local, national, regional and global levels;
- v. <u>highlighted</u> that countries from Asia and the Pacific region have prioritized policies to some extent and need FAO's support to scale up actions to promote climate resilient agrifood systems, as a core element of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and associated implementation plans;
- vi. noted the practical examples of actions being rolled out by national counterparts, FAO and other partners, to promote or support the transition toward climate resilient agrifood systems and opportunities for learning and exchange across countries in the region and globally;
- vii. <u>emphasized</u> that there is "no one size fits all" solution for building climate resilient agrifood systems and to take into account that each nation has different levels of vulnerabilities and respective needs for development; and
- viii. supported the efforts of FAO to assist Members to access resources, scale-up actions and promote climate resilient agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, including the development of a new FAO Strategy on Climate Change and related activities.

24. Recommended FAO to:

 continue to support countries in integrating agrifood systems into their national policies, strategies and programmes for climate change and disaster risk reduction and management;

- ii. assist countries to implement, monitor and report sector-specific policies and measures for climate resilient agrifood systems tailored to national priorities;
- iii. work with countries to adopt innovative technologies, evidence-based analyses and partnerships to develop multi-sectoral approaches for scaling-up action to promote climate resilient agrifood systems and improve access to healthy diets;
- iv. facilitate countries access to climate finance for investment in national priority actions to address risks and opportunities for agrifood systems identified in NDCs, the Sendai Framework's Indicator C2: direct agricultural loss attributed to disasters and other climate change policies and strategies; and
- v. ensure the engagement of a wide range of stakeholders in efforts to promote climate resilient agrifood systems, including smallholder farmers and local communities, as well as other public and private sector stakeholders.

C. Scaling up inclusive digitalization in agricultural value chains

25. The Regional Conference:

- acknowledged that Asia and the Pacific countries and territories are witnessing a digital transformation at all stages of the agrifood value chain, from production to consumption, which offers opportunities for improving the region's food and nutrition security, livelihoods and environmental sustainability;
- ii. <u>recognized</u> that despite the challenges faced, the ongoing digital transformation of agrifood chains may be critical for achieving SDGs, countries in the region need to scale-up digitalization in an inclusive and sustainable manner, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- iii. <u>welcomed</u> FAO's efforts to support inclusive digitalization, increase awareness about its benefits as well as the challenges faced by family farmers, small entrepreneurs, particularly women, youth and indigenous peoples, and to promote regional and public-private collaboration in this field; and
- iv. highlighted the need for a more systemic and coordinated approach among key sectors and stakeholders to creating and enabling environment that makes the digitalization of value chains in agrifood systems more inclusive and sustainable, while addressing associated regulatory issues.

26. Recommended FAO to:

- i. redouble its efforts towards promoting cohesive action and policies on scaling-up inclusive digitalization across agricultural and food value-chains in Asia and the Pacific, in alignment with relevant regional and global initiatives;
- ii. provide technical support, strategic and policy guidance, and capacity development to enable, deploy, and expand digital innovations to support inclusive rural transformation, stronger rural-urban linkages, sustainable employment and enhanced ability to absorb released labour, especially youth employment and small and mid-size enterprise (SME) development, to better contribute to achieving SDG 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger) and 10 (Reduced Inequalities);
- iii. assist Members in policy and investment development to ensure that digitalization reaches rural communities and is made accessible to all, including the sharing of science and appropriate innovations to small-scale producers, small-scale businesses, especially

- women, youth, indigenous groups and local communities, ensuring their digital literacy, awareness and upskilling within agrifood systems; and
- iv. promote regional collaboration and exchange to further advance inclusive digitalization, in coordination with academia, civil society, the private sector and other development partners.

D. Identifying One Health priorities in Asia and the Pacific region

- 27. The Regional Conference:
 - i. recognized that a One Health (OH) approach is needed in Asia and the Pacific region to ensure the protection of the health of the environment, animals and people, because humans are interconnected with nature and depend on healthy biodiversity and ecological systems to safeguard health;
 - ii. appreciated that the increasing human population, unsustainable agricultural production practices, over-consumption, unsustainable natural resource management, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, land-use changes, and encroachment are all factors that have contributed to the large number of transboundary animal and zoonotic diseases that have spilled over and impacted livestock and livelihoods, food and nutrition security, trade, national economies, wildlife populations, and public health;
 - iii. <u>acknowledged</u> the strategic role FAO has played in OH to date, with technical support focused on zoonotic diseases, transboundary animal diseases, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and food safety;
 - iv. <u>emphasized</u> the importance of FAO, as part of its role in the tripartite with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO), to address OH gaps and expand OH including:
 - a. engagement with wildlife, environment and natural resource management professionals in One Health;
 - b. improved OH policies, frameworks and coordination mechanisms at national and regional levels;
 - c. development of an in-service training programme that supports environment sector professionals and increases the understanding of all OH professionals on the links between the environment;
 - d. expanded OH programs that prioritise mandates of the environment, wildlife and natural resource management sectors including conserving and restoring biodiversity and ecosystems and other upstream interventions to safeguard health and prevent pandemics; and
 - e. alignment of OH programming with the OH Global Plan of Action.
 - v. <u>welcomed</u> FAO's efforts to support countries to carefully evaluate OH country coordination and collaboration mechanisms across sectors and identify needs and gaps.
- 28. <u>Recommended FAO</u>, in collaboration with other tripartite members and other international organizations as relevant, to:
 - i. provide technical assistance to countries to strengthen OH policy, governance and capacity (individual and institutional), including undertaking national OH and environment sector needs assessments:
 - ii. expand OH capacity development, subject to available resources, that incorporates linkages between the environment and health and includes both in-service training for wildlife, environment, biodiversity and ecosystem professionals and joint, multi-sector training on OH;

iii. maintain ongoing OH support for addressing zoonotic diseases, transboundary animal diseases, scale-up activities under the regional programme on antimicrobial resistance and food safety and include CODEX Alimentarius and other associated standards;

- iv. work with countries, international financial institutions, and regional organizations to develop policy and investment support for large scale strengthening of the OH systems and ensure OH is delivered with all relevant stakeholders; and
- v. lead a high-level regional consultation on OH and develop a policy brief or position paper for Asia and the Pacific region.

E. Conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity for food security and nutrition in the Pacific Islands

29. The Regional Conference:

- i. <u>recognized</u> that the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) include some of the richest and most biodiverse terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems on earth, that are critical for the region's food security, healthy and nutritious diets and resilient livelihoods;
- ii. <u>welcomed</u> FAO's efforts to support PICTs in the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity for agriculture, food, healthy and nutritious diets and in promoting ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries, forestry and agriculture in the region to reverse the trend of biodiversity loss;
- iii. <u>highlighted</u> the need for effective management of fisheries and aquaculture in the region through implementation of the Blue Transformation Programme Priority Area (PPA); and
- iv. <u>emphasized</u> the need for a more systematic and coordinated approach among key sectors and stakeholders for the sustainable management and utilization of biodiversity for food and agriculture in the Pacific region.

30. Recommended FAO to:

- i. develop a regional plan to promote cohesive action on mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors, including fishery, crops, livestock and forestry in the Pacific region;
- ii. ensure that the regional plan is demand-driven, involves a multi-stakeholder consultation process and is aligned with relevant global and regional frameworks and initiatives; and
- iii. ensure that the regional plan contains key areas and actions for FAO technical support to the Pacific region, to meet regional and national goals in line with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the FAO strategy on mainstreaming biodiversity, in alignment with the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and FAO's Regional Priority, Building sustainable and resilient agrifood systems in the Pacific Small Island Developing States.

III. Programme and Budget Matters

A. Regional results, priorities, the *four betters* and the Sustainable Development Goals

31. The Regional Conference considered two documents relating to FAO's programme of work in the region. The first summarized the results for FAO in the region 2020-21 and the second outlined FAO's regional approach towards its priorities and ways of working following four Regional Priorities, which are fully aligned with the Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 endorsed by the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference.

32. The Regional Conference:

i. recognized the major actions carried out by FAO and the results achieved in 2020 and 2021, which respond to the main priorities identified by the 35th Session of the Regional Conference. In particular, noted the four regional initiatives supported by the 35th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, namely, the Zero Hunger Challenge, Climate Change, One Health, and the Interregional Initiative on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) - Pacific Component;

- ii. <u>recognized</u> the delivery and outcomes of FAO's work in the region, with over 500 projects, having particularly adapted them to the context and conditions created by the unforeseen and unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic;
- iii. <u>acknowledged</u> the importance of continued delivery of normative and knowledge products and services, such as regulations, voluntary guidelines, legal instruments, and studies at national and regional levels, and policy dialogue based on evidence;
- iv. noted the transformational change in the Organization and its technical units including at regional and country level to address multifaceted development challenges;
- v. <u>endorsed</u> the four Regional Priorities identified for the 2022-2023 biennium based on key trends, issues and challenges in Asia and the Pacific region;
- vi. recognized the relevance of the individual PPAs mapping to each the four Regional Priorities in the proposed results framework and to the achievement of the four betters to meet the SDGs:
- vii. <u>provided</u> guidance on the proposed results framework, corporate programmes and the strategies to be implemented with regional and national specificities;
- viii. <u>advised</u> on emerging issues and partnerships for consideration in further programme development and provide efficient and adequate support to countries on the SDGs; and
- ix. noted the significance of the work of the Regional Commissions in standards setting, development of voluntary guidelines and implementation of globally endorsed legal instruments in key technical areas of the Organization's mandate.

33. Recommended FAO to:

- i. promote agrifood system transformation to make improvements in the areas of sustainable and climate resilient agriculture, uptake of agricultural technologies, market access and trade and sustainable natural resource management;
- ii. ensure that the cross-cutting themes on gender, youth and inclusion will be systematically mainstreamed across the programmatic work of the four Regional Priorities;
- iii. engage Members on implementation tools and approaches under each of the Regional Priorities, including through consultations, to foster awareness and increase country ownership on their implementation;
- iv. explore the possibilities of a regional Coordination and Innovation Hub to collate and disseminate data driven tools and best practices from the region, to develop partnerships engaging with the private sector and other stakeholders, and to promote greater cooperation and collaboration;
- v. build capacity for development and implementation of sustainable fisheries management plans, fisheries stock assessment and sustainable aquaculture systems, in cooperation with relevant regional fishery bodies;
- vi. expand work and support regional cooperation on sustainable forestry, in particular sustainable production and consumption of wood;

vii. strengthen OH capacity development and work to prevent transboundary diseases, zoonoses and AMR;

- viii. broaden technical support to value addition and processing, food safety and quality assurance of country-specific products under the One Country One Product (OCOP) initiative, as requested and in line with national priorities; and
- ix. strengthen the existing mechanisms of the FAO Regional Technical Commissions (Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific [APHCA], the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission [APFIC], the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission [APFC] and the Asia-Pacific Plant Protection Commission [APPPC]), to ensure that these regional bodies contribute to building stronger linkages and collaboration between FAO and the relevant technical line agencies of the Members in the region.

B. Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change

34. The Regional Conference:

- i. <u>appreciated</u> the urgency of addressing climate change impacts as part of agrifood system transformation to increase their climate resilience. It recognized that the agrifood systems are fundamental components of climate action as they are heavily affected by climate change as well as responsible for a significant part of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- ii. <u>welcomed</u> the initiation of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change, its vision and Theory of Change and its alignment to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and other international agreements, and expressed appreciation for the inclusive and consultative process that has been adopted to develop the strategy; and
- iii. emphasized how agrifood systems can contribute to climate change mitigation and noted the opportunities across the region to adopt innovative solutions under this strategy. It further noted that implementing the strategy should be tailored to specific circumstances at the national and local levels.

35. Recommended FAO to:

- i. ensure that the strategy goes beyond business as usual and promote a shift that will tackle the root causes of climate change impacts on the agrifood system and address the vulnerability of countries and communities in the region;
- ii. use the role and comparative advantage of FAO to support learning and exchange, across countries in the region and globally, on new innovations, technologies and partnerships and scaling up adoption of these measures through facilitating access to climate finance and providing guidance to processes such as the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture; and
- iii. ensure that the specific needs of Members and agrifood system stakeholders from Asia and the Pacific region are considered in the new strategy and future work during implementation of the strategy on the ground.

C. Update on the development of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy

36. The Regional Conference:

- i. <u>welcomed</u> the development of FAO's first-ever Science and Innovation Strategy as a key tool to contribute to the implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and commended its transparent and inclusive consultation process;
- ii. <u>underlined</u> that science and innovation underpin a wide range of approaches, technologies and practices that can contribute to transforming agrifood systems to nourish people, nurture the planet, advance equitable livelihoods and build resilient ecosystems;

- iii. <u>highlighted</u> that while science and innovation is critical for agrifood system transformation, innovations need to account for national circumstances;
- iv. <u>stressed</u> that science and innovation can be a powerful engine to transform agrifood systems when accompanied by strong institutions, good governance, political will, enabling regulatory frameworks, and effective measures to promote equity among agrifood system actors;
- v. <u>underscored</u> that science and innovation serve as a foundation for the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and have cross-sectoral relevance across the Organization's programme of work and requested more information as to how this will be incorporated into the programme of FAO in Asia and the Pacific region; and
- vi. <u>welcomed FAO's commitment to strengthening its leadership role on science and innovation for the transformation of agrifood systems.</u>
- 37. The Regional Conference <u>recommended</u> that FAO:
 - i. adopt a regional approach when implementing the Strategy;
 - ii. focus on providing analyses of critical advances in science and technology and the resulting innovation, as well as on foresight exercises on key issues;
 - iii. promote science-based approaches at country level and ensure that knowledge, science, and innovation is easily accessible and locally adapted; and
 - iv. strengthen knowledge management and exchange as critical issues, including for local/traditional knowledge, through platforms (including digital ones), forums for sharing technology, South-South and Triangular Cooperation as well as international fora.

D. Prioritization of country and regional needs

- 38. The Ministerial Session of the Regional Conference convened from 10 to 11 March, included 24 Ministers and 18 Vice Ministers and other high-level delegates. The Regional Conference <u>underscored</u> recommendations of the Senior Officers Meeting as elaborated in the respective sections of this report.
- 39. The Regional Conference <u>underlined</u> that the continued economic growth of Asia and Pacific region has resulted in the achievement of widespread national food security, but this is still offset by substantial malnutrition, rural poverty and vulnerability in the region. Addressing this in the face of climate change, environmental degradation and the COVID-19 pandemic <u>highlights the need for</u> agrifood system transformation across Asia and the Pacific region in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda and implement the Paris Agreement.
- 40. Ministers and delegates all reported how the COVID-19 pandemic had affected their agriculture and food sectors with severe disruptions in food supply chains, as well as shortages and disruption in labour and agricultural inputs. Some of these impacts have been exacerbated by other drivers such as climate change impacts, or biosecurity threats such as African Swine Fever (ASF), Fall Armyworm (FAW) and desert locust. These unprecedented disruptions are leading Members to reevaluate their national strategies for food security and agrifood systems, seeking ways to improve resilience to such shocks.
- 41. Ministers and delegates all referred to the threats from climate change facing their countries and the impact on their agriculture and food sectors. The Regional Conference emphasized the need for climate-smart policies, innovations and investments in agriculture, to increase climate resilience of food production and enhance livelihoods of rural, agricultural and coastal communities and their associated value chains. The Regional Conference emphasized the need to reduce emissions in line with commitments under the Paris Agreement, and recognized that sustainable forestry, including restoration and agroforestry, contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and to enhancing resilience for sustainable agrifood systems transformation.

42. The Regional Conference <u>recognized</u> that agriculture is a contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and noted the need for the reduction of emissions in the land sector, the potential for restorative agriculture and forestry, and opportunity for the development and use of renewable or sustainable energy for agricultural purposes. The Regional Conference also <u>highlighted</u> the potential for renewable energy applications in SIDS and remote rural areas, where access to reliable, affordable energy is constrained.

- 43. The Regional Conference <u>emphasized</u> the importance of improving nutrition and diets highlighting the need to ensure that farmers and producers can produce safe and nutritious food from livelihoods and systems that are economically and environmentally sustainable, so that consumers can have increased access to affordable and healthy diets. The Regional Conference <u>stressed</u> that this requires significant transformation of their agrifood systems and noted their policies and programmes to achieve this.
- 44. Stressing that there is no 'one-size-fits-all' solution, Ministers and delegates <u>highlighted</u> how their national policies and initiatives were targeting national challenges such as improving nutrition, addressing rural poverty, modernizing agriculture and encouraging youth to stay within the agriculture and food sector. Ministers and delegates described their priorities for achieving this and how they were promoting agricultural and rural transformation. These strategies are increasing investment in rural infrastructure and financial services, harnessing technological innovations, digital technologies, education including financial and digital literacy, and enhanced access to social protection, to transform agrifood systems in the region. Targeting these to support the vital role of smallholders, family farmers and fishers, including women and youth <u>was emphasized</u> as essential to achieving the SDGs.
- 45. Ministers and delegates also outlined their efforts and programmes to promote agrifood system research, innovation, digitalization, extension services and education to support the necessary transformation of their agrifood systems. The need to link this both rural financing and public and private investment <u>was emphasized</u>, and they <u>encouraged</u> the use of pilot approaches to promote this.
- 46. The Regional Conference <u>highlighted</u> the opportunities and potential for digitalization and innovations in the agriculture sub-sectors, citing national programmes promoting various forms of improved and resilient agrifood systems, that addresses environmental, climate-related, economic and social challenges. These are expected to improve agriculture's sustainability, efficiency and productivity, reduce food-losses and waste in value chains and improve agricultural e-commerce and trade.
- 47. The Regional Conference <u>emphasized</u> that awareness-raising, capacity building and skill enhancement were needed to use and benefit from the opportunities of digitalization and that it was essential that these benefits are made available to farmers at all scales, with particular focus on smallholders and family farming operations. The Regional Conference also <u>emphasized</u> the importance of engaging youth and women in this process to engage with a new generation of young farmers and rural entrepreneurs to promote digital literacy. In SIDS, it was noted that digitalization is part of blue transformation and sustainable management of fisheries, offering significant opportunities for providing tracking systems, catch documentation, support to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and more efficient trade.
- 48. The Regional Conference <u>underscored</u> the importance of promoting sustainable use of natural resources for sustainable production, conservation of biodiversity and for mitigating the impacts of climate change. The Regional Conference <u>highlighted</u> initiatives including improved forestry and fishery management, promotion of sustainable cropping systems, sustainable wood value-chains, coping with water scarcity and their national efforts to reduce agricultures' impacts on vulnerable terrestrial, aquatic and coastal ecosystems. The Regional Conference also noted the potential for regenerative and restorative agriculture and forestry to reduce GHG-emissions.
- 49. The Regional Conference <u>highlighted</u> the crucial role of effective biosecurity systems in addressing both emergence of pest and diseases, as well as transboundary introductions to address risks to human, animal and plant health. The Regional Conference also noted the particular

vulnerability of SIDS to the biosecurity risks arising from their high reliance on food imports, highlighted that environmental integrity had important linkages to biosecurity and health risks and emphasized this should be strengthened in the OH framework. The Regional Conference stressed the need to improve food safety systems, develop effective standards, improve access to livestock vaccines and addressing the problem of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Priority action should be directed at capacity building and institutional strengthening, particularly at the regional level to institutionalize the OH approach within the agriculture, environment and wildlife sectors, as well as enhanced collaboration amongst the tripartite partners (WHO, FAO and OIE) to achieve this.

- 50. The Regional Conference <u>underscored</u> the unique context of SIDS that requires specifically tailored solutions and practices. The Regional Conference noted that the high dependence of SIDS upon their blue economies means they are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts and ocean health. Many SIDS are focussing on blue foods systems alongside within their overall agrifood system transformation. Priority actions highlighted included the building resilient livelihoods and protection of coastal communities, ensuring sustainable development of the fisheries which sustain SIDS' economies and improved biosecurity to manage transboundary pests and diseases.
- 51. The Regional Conference noted the priority for many SIDS to reduce reliance on imported products and to mitigate the impacts of interruptions in their supply-chains of food and agricultural inputs. The Regional Conference <u>emphasized</u> the need for sustainable agrifood systems specifically adapted to the land, water and environmental constraints of SIDS' environments.
- 52. The Regional Conference also <u>highlighted</u> the need for strengthened international and regional collaboration and partnerships to increase impact, build on existing regional knowledge and to avoid duplication. The Regional Conference <u>encouraged</u> FAO to continue to assist countries to identify and maximize potential partnerships and investments, including through the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, public-private partnership and other modalities. The Regional Conference also <u>highlighted</u> the need to sustain and deepen collaboration with international and regional bodies in the elaboration and implementation of regional food security frameworks, natural resources, regional fisheries and ecosystem-based management, promotion of policy coherence, OH, innovative digital technologies, the improvement of food and nutrition security data and enhanced capacity for Big Data management.

IV. Other Matters

A. Special event on innovation, science and digitalization: Transforming agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region

- 53. The Regional Conference listened to a special event on innovation, science and digitalization: Transforming agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region. Following a presentation of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, panel members from Bangladesh, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu shared country-specific opportunities, challenges, areas for regional cooperation and FAO support. The panel noted that digitalization and innovation lie at the heart of agrifood system transformation, as well as blue transformation in the blue economies of SIDS. It highlighted that opportunities included digital means to access e-markets, the role of governments in promoting digital solutions, such as through digital commerce policy or digital transformation for agricultural sector. The panel shared how they were rethinking digitalization strategies and policies to target investments for upscaling inclusive digital innovations within agrifood systems and the rural economy.
- 54. The panel highlighted the importance of inclusive policies and approaches, to bring smallholders, family farmers, fishers and small entrepreneurs into digitalization and to overcome the digital divide. The development of regional science innovation hubs to improve knowledge sharing between Members was also highlighted by the panel. FAO announced the launch of a platform to allow Members to share innovations in the region and noted that the South-South and Triangular Cooperation would be important mechanisms for delivering support to the Strategy.

B. Ministerial Roundtable on greener and better agrifood systems after COVID-19

- 55. Ministers and delegates shared their perspectives, priorities and updated the Regional Conference on post-COVID-19 response and recovery programmes, strategies and policies related to agrifood transformation in light of lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, the follow-up actions, outcomes and commitments made during the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) in September 2021 and the commitments to gain lost ground on critical SDG targets and indicators slowed down by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 56. Ministers and delegates acknowledged the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic impacts on and the disruptions of the economy, health, and agrifood supply chains, as well as the socio-economic impacts and the hardships on large segments of the populations. They shared perspectives on the COVID-19 response and recovery measures, giving high priority to initiatives aimed to prevent and/or minimize future disruptions from similar pandemics and to rebuild agrifood systems.
- 57. Ministers and delegates stressed the importance of rethinking, designing and prioritizing inclusive and affordable social protection systems, to expand coverage and strengthen social resilience in the agriculture sector and give greater ability to withstand future crises. Several delegations pointed out how governments have incorporated sustainable or climate resilient strategies within their COVID-19 recovery plans and measures to face the impacts of climate change and the frequent disasters, which continue to compound the challenges already faced by the agriculture sector.
- 58. Ministers and delegates interventions also addressed the follow-up actions of the 2021 UNFSS, and their countries' commitments and means of implementation of the core national pathways for building MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems, in accordance with national priorities and capacities.

C. Ministerial Roundtable on climate actions for resilience and sustainability

- 59. The Ministerial Roundtable on climate actions for resilience and sustainability highlighted the efforts of countries in the region to adopt policies and measures to support a transformation towards more sustainable and resilient agrifood systems, as they related to sector commitments under multilateral environmental agreements such as the Paris Agreement and related multi-stakeholder initiatives. These included the Methane Pledge, the Policy Action Agenda for the Transition to Sustainable Agriculture, the Global Action Agenda for Innovation in Agriculture and the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use.
- 60. Ministers and delegates emphasized an urgent need to invest in action now to anticipate and adapt, but also to address the drivers of future risks from climate change and its multidimensional impacts, to ensure food security and nutrition for all, now and in the future. They encouraged FAO to further its efforts under the draft of the new Strategy on Climate Change to facilitate investment in climate resilient agrifood systems and support countries to implement, monitor and report sector-specific policies and measures, to strengthen resilience at regional, national and local levels.

D. Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

- 61. The Regional Conference g reviewed the draft Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific.
- 62. The Regional Conference <u>endorsed</u> the MYPOW for the 2022-2025 period to frame the work of the Regional Conference, encouraged regular and systematic review of the performance and efficiency of the Regional Conference, and looked forward to receiving a full report at the next session.

E. Date and place of the 37th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

63. The Regional Conference <u>recommended</u> the acceptance of the gracious offer of the Government of Sri Lanka to host the 37th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 2024.

F. Any other matters

64. Delegates were informed of the upcoming XV World Forestry Congress from 2 to 6 May 2022 in Coex, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

V. Concluding items

Adoption of the Report of the Regional Conference

65. The Regional Conference unanimously <u>adopted</u> the Report as presented by the Rapporteur.

Closure of the Regional Conference

- 66. Dr QU Dongyu, Director-General of FAO, expressed his heartfelt congratulations to the Government and people of Bangladesh, The Honourable Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and the Honourable Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, Minister for Agriculture, Bangladesh for hosting APRC 36. He also extended his gratitude to the participants and congratulated them on the success of APRC 36. The Director-General highlighted that APRC 36 is the first hybrid Regional Conference and had reached a greater audience than any previous Regional Conference as a result. He emphasized that MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems should and must play a decisive role in the future of the region and their transformation will be important in achieving the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific region. He stressed the need to reduce regional, rural-urban and gender inequalities and that agrifood transformation must "leave no one behind". The Director-General urged participants to increase their ownership and political commitment to accelerate agrifood systems transformation, and to take a leading role in line with the importance of agriculture in regional and global food security and nutrition.
- 67. The Honourable Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, Minister for Agriculture, Bangladesh, as Chairperson of the Ministerial Meeting, thanked the participants for their positive contributions, which had led to the successful conduct of the 36th Session of APRC. He subsequently declared the 36th Session of APRC closed.
- 68. Participants expressed their appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh for successfully hosting the first ever hybrid Regional Conference and to FAO for the efficient preparation and organization of the 36th Session of APRC.

Appendix A Agenda

I. Introductory Items

- 1. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, and appointment of the Rapporteur
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
- 3. Statement by the Director-General
- 4. Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council
- 5. Statement by the Chairperson of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
- 6. Statement on the Third Joint FAO and Pacific Community (SPC) Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry Meeting
- 7. Statement by the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
- 8. Statement by the Spokesperson of the Civil Society Consultation
- 9. Statement by the Spokesperson of the Private Sector Consultation

II. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Matters

- 10. State of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific region, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 11. Actions to promote climate resilient agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region
- 12. Scaling up inclusive digitalization in agricultural value chains
- 13. Identifying One Health priorities in Asia and the Pacific region
- 14. Conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity for food security and nutrition in the Pacific Islands

III. Programme and Budget Matters

- 15. Regional results, priorities, the *four betters* and the Sustainable Development Goals
- 16. Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change

- 17. Update on the development of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy
- 18. Prioritization of country and regional needs

IV. Other Matters

- 19. Special event on innovation, science and digitalization: Transforming agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region
- 20. Ministerial Roundtable on greener and better agrifood systems after COVID-19
- 21. Ministerial Roundtable on climate actions for resilience and sustainability
- 22. Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
- 23. Date and place of the 37th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
- 24. Any other matters

V. Concluding Items

Adoption of the Regional Conference

Closure of the Regional Conference

Appendix B

List of Documents

https://www.fao.org/about/meetings/regional-conferences/aprc36/documents/en/

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Symbol	Title
APRC/22/1 Rev.1	Provisional Annotated Agenda
APRC/22/2	State of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific region, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
APRC/22/3	Actions to promote climate resilient agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific region
APRC/22/4	Identifying One Health priorities in Asia and the Pacific region
APRC/22/5	Conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity for food security and nutrition in the Pacific islands
APRC/22/6	Scaling up inclusive digitalization in agricultural value chains
APRC/22/7	Results for FAO in the region – 2020-21
APRC/22/8	Priorities for FAO in the region under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
APRC/22/9	Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025 for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
APRC/22/10	Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change
APRC/22/11	The outline and roadmap of the "FAO Science and Innovation Strategy"
INF Series	
APRC/22/INF/1	Information Note
APRC/22/INF/2 Rev.2	Provisional Timetable
APRC/22/INF/3 Rev.2	Provisional List of Documents
APRC/22/INF/4	Statement by the Director-General
APRC/22/INF/5	Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council

APRC/22/INF/6	Statement by the Chairperson of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
APRC/22/INF/7	Statement by the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
APRC/22/INF/8	Statement by the Spokesperson of the Civil Society Consultation
APRC/22/INF/9	Statement on the Third Joint FAO and Pacific Community (SPC) Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry Meeting
APRC/22/INF/10	Statement by the Spokesperson of the Private Sector Consultation
APRC/22/INF/11	Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA)
APRC/22/INF/12	Report of the Thirty-sixth Session of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)
APRC/22/INF/13	Report of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC)
APRC/22/INF/14	Report of the Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) and Update on Fall Armyworm and Desert Locusts in Asia and the Pacific
APRC/22/INF/15	Biodiversity mainstreaming across agricultural sectors in Asia and the Pacific region
APRC/22/INF/16	Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change – Information Note 1 – December 2021
APRC/22/INF/17	Update on the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy – Information Note 1 – December 2021
APRC/22/INF/18	Addressing rising water scarcity in agriculture: introducing a new FAO Water Scarcity Programme and associated Regional Cooperative Platform