



Regional Initiatives for Food Security and Nutrition

Discussions in the APRC

Republic of Korea
36th Session of CFS
October 12, 2010



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The 30th APROC

- 27 Sep. – 1 Oct., Gyeongju, ROK
- 351 participants from 28 member countries, 5 observers, 14 NGOs
- Side events
 - Enhancing National and Regional Governance of Food Security and Nutrition: Capitalizing on CFS Reform
 - Responsible agricultural investment
- CSO consultation (27-28, Sep.)
 - 70 representatives from small food producers and CSOs
 - Discussed issues affecting global food security



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State of Food and Agriculture in the Region

- The largest number of undernourished people in the world – about 63 percent
- Challenges to attain food security
 - stagnation of crop productivity
 - impact of climate change
 - high and unstable food prices
 - natural disasters



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Experiences & Lessons from Food & Financial Crisis

- The region coped with the 2007-2008 food security crisis without suffering serious consequences
- Some countries responded to the sharp increases in food prices with
 - bans on the export of food commodities, price stabilization, strengthening of social safety nets
- Participants recognized the need for greater investment in the entire food chain



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Experiences & Lessons from Food & Financial Crisis

- Encouraged member countries to
 - strengthen social safety net
 - enhance the effectiveness of regional food banks or food security reserves
 - enhance the accuracy, timeliness and transparency of production statistics and information on stockpiles
- Recommended FAO to
 - conduct analytical studies and policy dialogue to develop policy options for more stable global trading system (suggested high level discussion in the CFS)
 - continue close collaboration with ASEAN, SAARC, PIF and other sub-regional organizations



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Regional priority for 2010-11 and 2012-13

- Areas of regional priority for FAO work
 - I. Strengthening food and nutritional security
 - II. Fostering agricultural production and rural development
 - III. Enhancing productive and sustainable natural resource management
 - IV. Improving capacity to prepare and respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies
 - V. Coping with the impacts of climate change
- Emphasized the need for identifying detailed priorities



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Other Recommendations

- Need for adequate financial resources to be provided to the Asia-Pacific region
- Need for due consideration to the Pacific and small island nations, particularly with respect to high vulnerability to climate change
- Encouraged additional support to priority programmes through extra-budgetary contributions
- Encouraged regional office to collaborate closely with other development partners and regional organizations



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CFS Reform

- Considered as a critical process for coherence and consistency to ensure food security
- Appreciated increased inclusiveness in the CFS
- Encouraged effective involvement from civil society as well as industry
- Welcomed efforts to establish closer linkages between CFS and the Regional Conference
 - Preferred using the existing food security fora in the region



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Side Event on CFS

- “Enhancing National and Regional Governance of Food Security and Nutrition: Capitalizing on CFS Reform”
- Primary consideration was the multisectoral and multistakeholder nature of food security & nutrition
 - shared best practices and lessons learned in promoting multi-stakeholder participation at national and regional level



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Side Event on CFS

- Lessons learned in tackling food insecurity
 - the commitment by national governments as a precondition to successful regional efforts
 - the need for a clear demarcation of responsibilities among all stakeholders
 - the need to mainstream the nutritional component of food security
- Identified the need for improved regional coordination and sharing a common framework
- Encouraged existing regional bodies and initiatives to involve other intergovernmental organizations, CSOs, private sector, research institutions