

**First session of the COAG's Sub-Committee on Livestock
Written Correspondence Procedure
Agenda item 4.2: Holistic and evidence-based reporting on the livestock sector**

Secretariat response to written comments from the Committee

The Secretariat expresses its appreciation for the comments received from Members on item 4.2 of the Agenda – Holistic and evidence-based reporting on the livestock sector. Comments were received from Brazil, the EU, Mali, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America. All comments are well noted.

In particular:

FAO welcomes the recommendation by Peru and New Zealand to continue providing technical support on data collection and analysis on various dimensions of sustainability.

FAO welcomes the point raised by the EU, Peru and New Zealand, that science-based decisions need to take into account the specificities of the local conditions and production systems. In particular, FAO reaffirms that specific attention should be given to the vulnerability of small-scale producers including pastoralists and to traditional, indigenous and local knowledge.

FAO welcomes the response from Mali and the recommendation to strengthen collection, use and dissemination of livestock data, especially in extensive pastoralist systems. In this regard, FAO has piloted several tools and methodologies in the Sahel, including in Mali: a pastoralist-driven data collection methodology, a pastoralist version of the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation and a Feed Balance Sheet tool for improved feed availability assessments. Results of field assessments using such tools and methodologies contribute to better inform policy makers and the public on the role of pastoralist systems in sustainable development, including food security and nutrition, economic growth, the management of natural resources, empowerment of women, youth and the poor .

FAO welcomes the commitment of the EU to reduce the environmental and climate impact of animal production and to share its expertise and experience on this matter.

FAO welcomes the points made by the EU and Switzerland calling for livestock policies and evidence-based reporting relying on scientific approaches agreed through partnerships with stakeholders. FAO is facilitating policy dialogue through the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL) and the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (FAO LEAP Partnership).

FAO acknowledges the comments from Switzerland on the particular importance of SDG 12: **responsible consumption and production**, and on the role of animal genetic resources in sustainable livestock and of Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS).

FAO takes note of the points raised by Brazil on (i) distortions in agriculture trade flows arising from non-tariff barriers and subsidies to production in developed countries and (ii) the lack of funding and technology transfer.

FAO acknowledges the points raised by Brazil, New Zealand and the United States on the contribution of livestock to climate change and the need for accurate reporting and monitoring of GHG emissions. FAO reaffirms its commitment to support low and middle income countries for low emissions and resilient

livestock development, including by leveraging climate finance and enabling transparent reporting and monitoring of GHG emissions and removals, with capacity development and a wide array of analytical tools such as EX-ACT, GLEAM and GLEAM-i.

FAO acknowledges the comments received from the Philippines on the risks that rising prices in feed, reduced production areas and animal diseases pose to the availability of animal products and to the provision of protein and energy for populations. FAO welcomes the recommendations from the Philippines to support better incomes and inclusion for small holders, improved waste management and the use of data platforms for reporting (e.g. World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS)).

FAO takes good note of the information shared by Peru and Turkey on the role of livestock in their national contexts.