

Resolution 4/2009 on the Immediate Plan of Action for FAO Renewal

THE CONFERENCE:

Mindful of FAO's unique overall mandate for food and agriculture, **cognisant** of its vision of a world free of hunger and malnutrition where the food and agriculture sectors contribute to improving the living standards of all in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and **aware** of the global goals set out by the Members to foster the achievement of this vision as formulated in the Organization's Strategic Framework 2010-19;

Recalling its Resolution 1/2008 whereby it approved the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) for FAO Renewal for implementation over a three-year period from 2009 to 2011 – a vital pathway of Reform with Growth for a strengthened, efficient, effective and responsive Organization;

Having considered the Report of the Conference Committee on Follow-up to the Independent External Evaluation of FAO (CoC-IEE) on the work completed in 2009 in the framework of the IPA, and the remaining work to be undertaken for the implementation of the IPA;

Noting with appreciation that major progress has been achieved in implementing many IPA actions in the course of 2009, along with related recommendations from the Root and Branch Review of administrative processes;

Recognizing that FAO renewal will continue to entail considerable efforts to carry out large and complex IPA projects in 2010-11, and to ensure long-term integration of culture change in the overall reform of the Organization;

Acknowledging the spirit of collaboration and trust that has prevailed between the Membership and the Management of FAO in conducting the reform process as a joint endeavour, with full engagement and interactive participation of the Members, constant support of the Director-General, and committed involvement of the Staff across the Organization;

Cognisant of the need to ensure the sustainability of the reform process in the future years:

1. **Endorses** the Report of CoC-IEE on the Immediate Plan of Action for FAO Renewal as given in *Appendix D* of this Report.
2. **Decides** that the Council will continue to monitor the overall progress in implementation of the IPA and report to the Conference in 2011, receiving from Management, at its regular sessions, progress reports on IPA implementation for review and guidance. In performing this oversight function, the Council will also receive, as appropriate, specific inputs from the Programme Committee, the Finance Committee and the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters in their respective areas of mandate. In this context, the Independent Chairperson of the Council will play a proactive facilitating role.
3. **Decides** to establish, under Article VI of the FAO Constitution, a Conference Committee on Follow-up to the Independent External Evaluation of FAO (CoC-IEE) for the duration of 2010-11, to ensure continuity of oversight, guidance and follow-up for the implementation of the IPA, supporting the Council in its monitoring responsibility. To this end, the CoC-IEE will:

- a) provide overall monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the IPA by Management in 2010-11, as well as guidance for any required improvement in this regard, without prejudice to the statutory functions of the Council and its Committees;
 - b) complete a report on the results of its work by April 2011 for presentation to the Conference in June 2011, formulating any recommendations stemming from the implementation of the IPA;
 - c) be open to full participation by all Members with speaking rights, conduct its work in all languages of the Organization, and collectively formulate its recommendations and decisions through consensus to the maximum extent possible;
 - d) hold up to three meetings per year at appropriate periods of time, taking into account related sessions of the Governing Bodies to ensure proper sequencing of complementary meetings, and which will not be held in parallel with major meetings of the Rome-based UN Organizations to allow the fullest participation of Members;
 - e) appoint a Bureau consisting of the Chairperson and the two Vice-Chairpersons of the CoC-IEE and one representative of Member Nations per region, which will address exclusively administrative and organizational matters, and be open to non-speaking observers from the Membership;
 - f) be proactively supported by Management, which will provide secretariat services and the required documents for its meetings.
4. **Decides** that the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council will be the Chairperson of the CoC-IEE.
5. **Decides** to appoint as Vice-Chairpersons of the CoC-IEE:
- Ambassador Agnes van Ardenne-van der Hoeven (Netherlands); and
 - Ambassador Wilfred Joseph Ngirwa (United Republic of Tanzania).

(Adopted on 19 November 2009)