



“The role of Parliamentarians in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 - eradicating hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition”

FAO Headquarters| Iraq Room — 14.00-15.30

Concept Note

1. Background

Global demand for South-South Cooperation (SSC) and Triangular Cooperation (TrC) is at an all-time high. South-South Cooperation (SSC) is playing a greater role than ever before in the development cooperation landscape. Innovation in the global South is generating new tools and partnerships for tackling issues of food insecurity, poverty reduction and sustainable agriculture.

South-South Cooperation (SSC), defined as the mutual sharing and exchange of development solutions between and among countries in the global south, is critical to achieving FAO’s strategic objectives and the SDGs as a whole. SSC promotes the exchange of experiences between countries with similar realities and is a direct and low cost way to share knowledge and lessons learned, making effective contributions to development.

While FAO’s SSC programme focuses primarily on exchanges between governments, there is a growing attention on SSC’s potential for involving other key stakeholders such as parliamentarians.

2. Parliamentarians

Parliamentarians represent an important stakeholder in the development process. Their law-making, budgetary, representative and oversight roles make them critical partners in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. Indeed, evidence has shown that the improvement in food and nutrition security is principally due to the implementation of policies, programs and frameworks that are anchored in appropriate legislation. Thus, parliamentarians are critical actors in establishing an enabling political and legislative environment to achieve food and nutrition security.

FAO is therefore intensifying its collaboration with Parliamentarians, building upon the experiences of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger for Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH LAC), which was established in 2009. FAO has since engaged Parliamentarians in Africa and Europe, which resulted in the Pan African Parliament establishing the Pan-African Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (PAPA-FSN) and several members of the European Parliament establishing the European Alliance ‘Fight against Hunger.’

Utilizing SSC as a tool, FAO serves as a facilitator to create linkages between Parliamentarians, to share good experiences and practices. For example, in 2016 when the 250-member Pan African Parliament (PAP) decided to establish the PAPA-FSN, the PAP



FAO Conference 40th Session

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requested that LAC Parliamentarians share their experiences with them. FAO facilitated this exchange. As the PAPA-FSN commences work at the sub-regional and country levels, south-south cooperation will continue to be an important tool, using both experiences from the continent and the rest of the world.

3. Proposal

The Side Event proposed will focus on the role of south-south cooperation as a development tool for Parliamentarians. The event will bring together Parliamentarians to speak about the central role of south-south cooperation in their efforts toward achieving food and nutrition security.

The objectives of the side event are:

- to stress the critical role of Parliaments in enhancing Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) based on human-rights principles, putting this issue at the highest level of the policy and legislative agendas;
- Mutual exchange and sharing of key developments solutions are growing in the framework of FAO collaboration with Parliamentarians on FNS. Parliaments are keen to learn from each other and develop alliances. Member Countries are requesting support, recognizing the Organization's role as a neutral broker.

The Alliances below have positioned the issue of food and nutrition security at the highest level of the political and legislative agenda. At various level, these Alliances have:

- ✓ **Promoted and/or enacted**, legislative and other measures, to address specific issues relating to food and nutrition security
- ✓ **Raised awareness** on FNS issues, including with their constituencies.
- ✓ **Provided a dedicated space** for dialogue, discussion and exchange of views on issues related to food security amongst themselves.
- ✓ **Fostered dialogues and shared experiences** with other Parliamentarians and Parliamentary bodies around the world.



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6 July 2017 - 14:00-15:30, Iraq Room

14:05 - 14:15	<i>Opening Remarks</i> <i>José Graziano da Silva</i> , Director-General
	<i>Moderator</i> <i>Marcela Villarreal</i> , Director, Partnerships, Advocacy and Capacity Development Division (OPC)
14:15 - 15:05	<i>Reflections on the key issues for food security and nutrition – the perspective of the European Alliance “Fight Against Hunger”</i> <i>Honorable Maria Heubuch</i> , Member of Parliament Member of the European Parliamentary Alliance “Fight against Hunger”
	<i>Enacting Laws for Food Security and Nutrition and their impacts – experiences from the Parliamentary Front against Hunger for Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH LAC)</i> <i>Honorable Luisa María Calderón Hinojosa</i> , Regional Coordinator of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger for Latin America and the Caribbean
	<i>Honorable Blanca Alcalá</i> , Alternate President of the Latin America and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO)
	<i>From the establishment of a continental Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition to developing National Parliamentary Alliances – the experience of Madagascar</i> <i>Honorable Jafetra Randriamanantsoa</i> , President of the Malagasy Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition
15:05 - 15:30	Open Discussion and Closing Remarks