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MEDIA ADVISORY

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
for a world without hunger

39th FAO Conference: 6-13 June **14 heads of state or government expected to attend - DG election - Awards to countries for progress in hunger fight**

FAO's 197 [Members](#) will meet from 6-13 June for the 39th biennial FAO Conference, the highest governing body of the Organization.

Over 130 ministers and 14 heads of state or government are expected to attend.

The Conference will elect the FAO Director-General for a four-year term and set the Organization's budget for the 2016-17 biennium at this session.

All events listed here will be [webcast](#) live.

IMPORTANT: Pre-conference registration is required for all members of the media, including those with standing passes to enter FAO. Security will be strict and media access can only be guaranteed for those who have pre-accredited; those who have not accredited in advance will experience delays.

Detailed information on accreditation requirements and procedures is provided below.

Accredited media will be able to enter FAO on Saturday 6 June from 8:15h; on Sunday 7 June from 10:30h; on Monday 8 June from 8:15h.

Key events ([summary table](#))

Saturday, 6 June

Opening of the Conference

When: 09.30 | **Where:** Plenary Hall

Sergio Mattarella, president of Italy will give the Conference opening address. **Michele Bachelet**, president of Chile, **will** also speak at the start of the event.

Lecture by Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of Brazil

Former Brazilian president **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** will give the [McDougall memorial lecture during the morning session](#), addressing food and nutrition security issues.

Useful Links

[Key events at glance](#)

[FAO Conference page](#)

Provisional [agenda](#)

Provisional [timetable](#)

[Side events](#)

[Webcast](#)

[MDG award ceremony](#)

Twitter accounts to follow

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Hashtag

#UNFAO39

High-level panel on FAO's work with Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

When: 11:30 -13:00 | **Where:** FAO Sheikh Zayed Centre

Participants (TBC) will include: Domingos Simões Pereira, Prime Minister of Guinea Bissau; Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime-Minister of Fiji; Ralph Gonzalves, Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines; Patrick I. Gomes, Secretary General of The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP). **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #SIDS

Election of the Director-General

When: starting 14.30 | **Where:** Plenary Hall

The Conference will elect the FAO Director-General for the period July 2015 to July 2019.

Sunday, 7 June

Award Ceremony: Completing the MDG round – recognizing achievements in the fight against hunger

When: 15:00 - 18:00 | **Where:** Plenary Hall

15 countries – Angola, Bolivia, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Gabon, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Myanmar, Mozambique, Nepal, Oman, the Solomon Islands, Suriname, and Uzbekistan – will be recognized for achieving the Millennium Development Goal 1c of halving the rate of hunger or the stricter World Food Summit (WFS) target of halving the number of hungry people. Overall, 72 out of 129 countries monitored have made the MDG1c target and 29 have made the WFS target.

Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, President of Mali, and **Faure Gnassingbé, President of Togo** are expected to attend. Also expected are: Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of Ethiopia; Frank Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji; Daniel Ona Ondo, Prime Minister of Gabon; Domingos Simões Pereira, Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau; Brigi Rafini, Prime Minister of Niger; Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Habib Essid, Prime Minister Tunisia; Wang Yang Vice Premier of China. **Social media:** #MDGProgress

Monday, 8 June

Director-General's Policy Statement

When: 9.30 | **Where:** Plenary Hall

FAO Director-General Jose Graziano da Silva will [present](#) the Organization's work and results over the previous four years, global food security trends, and including hunger eradication as one of the new Sustainable Development Goals.

Speech by President Cristina Kirchner of Argentina

When: Morning session | **Where:** Plenary Hall

The Argentine President will address the Conference during the morning session.

Speech by President Nicolás Maduro of Venezuela

When: afternoon session, starting 14.15 | **Where:** Plenary Hall

The Venezuelan President will hold a press conference in the Sheik Zayed Centre following his speech.

Saturday 13 June

Speech by President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico

When: Afternoon | **Where:** Plenary Hall

The President will address the Conference during its closing session.

Side events

8 June - Side event: Zero Hunger

When: 12.30-13.30 | **Where:** Green Room

Ministers from Ecuador, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Malawi will discuss successes and challenges in the fight to end hunger through FAO's regional initiatives to eliminate hunger the Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. The FAO Director-General will speak.

Social media: #UNFAOresults #ZeroHunger

8 June - Side event: Agrifood Trade and Regional Integration in Europe and Central Asia

When: 13.30-14.30 | **Where:** Iran Room

Representatives from Moldova, Russia, Estonia and FAO will discuss successes in strengthening national and regional capacities in Europe and Central Asia to overcome challenges posed by greater trade integration. **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #AgriFood

9 June - Side event: Building Resilience in Africa's Drylands

When: 12.30-13.30 | **Where:** FAO Sheikh Zayed Centre

Representatives from Chad, the EU, Kenya, Zimbabwe and the Interstates Committee for Drought Control on the Sahel discuss regional efforts and successes in strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people in drylands to threats and crises. **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #Resilience

9 June - Side event: Near East and North Africa's Water Scarcity Initiative

When: 13.30-14.30 | **Where:** FAO Sheikh Zayed Centre

Representatives from Egypt, the League of Arab States, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and FAO will discuss successes from the regional initiative to improve the sustainable use and management of water. **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #WaterScarcity

10 June - Side event: Family Farming and Rural Territorial Development in Latin America and Caribbean

When: 13.30-14.30 | **Where:** FAO Sheikh Zayed Centre

Representatives from Argentina, Guatemala and Saint Vincent and Grenadines discuss regional efforts to reduce poverty and food insecurity by promoting rural development processes where family farming plays a central role. **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #FamilyFarming

11 June - Side event: Asia and the Pacific Regional Rice Initiative

When: 13.00-14.00 | **Where:** FAO Sheikh Zayed Centre

Representatives from the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Indonesia and the Philippines talk about regional efforts to make rice farming more productive, sustainable and efficient in resource use. **Social media:** #UNFAOresults #Rice

For a full list of side events, click [here](#).

ACCREDITATION:

All journalists -- *including those with standing FAO passes* -- must accredit in advance via email.

Required materials:

- Scan of a valid press card (*or*) letter of assignment on company stationery
- Scan of valid form of ID (passport, identity card).
- Recent passport-style color photograph in .jpg format (24 mm x 32 mm / 195 px x 255 px; maximum size 500kb)

Address for accreditation: FAO-Newsroom@fao.org. Include "Accreditation FAO conference" in the subject line.

You will need to have all ID materials with you in person to gain access to FAO.

Media traveling with national delegations should accredit through their embassy/FAO representation in Rome.

For more information:

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Tools for journalists & editors

Photo requests: (+39) 06 570 53082 / 53393 or Photo-Library@fao.org
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