



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

## **European Commission on Agriculture (ECA)**

### **36/4 Meeting of the Executive Committee 13 February 2017**

#### **Agenda item 4 – Background note Proposed subjects for the Agenda of the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture**

This proposal summarises the main issues that could be addressed at the 40th ECA. Once the issues are selected the responsible technical officers will draft the abstract for submission to Member Countries.

### **MAIN THEME OF THE 40<sup>th</sup> ECA- CLIMATE CHANGE**

#### **ITEM 1 - The contribution of sustainable food and agriculture for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change**

##### ***1.1 - Relevance of the sustainable food and agriculture's principles (SFA)***

Countries experiences in advancing sustainable food and agriculture policies and setting national targets to accelerate the achievement of SDG2, SDG13, SDG14 and SDG15. Results of the Agro-Ecology Symposium, from the concept to practice, voices from multi-stakeholder forum.

Priorities coming from EFC, EIFAAC, CACFISH, coherence across agriculture, forestry and fisheries policies and practices on addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Building coalitions with governmental bodies of different Ministries, the private sector and civil society for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

##### ***1.2 Moving forward on Agenda 2030 and support to countries on reporting on national indicators under custodianship of FAO- monitoring of SDG indicators in the region***

Adapting national targets and indicators to Global reporting/monitoring system for SDG indicators under FAO custodianship.

The experience gained in working in countries on identifying the potential source of indicators. Outcomes of the Expert meeting on statistics for SDGs to be held in Geneva 10-12 April 2017. Collaboration within UN agencies and particularly RBA in the region in implementing SGD indicators.

### ***1.3 Climate change and transboundary animal diseases***

Countries policies and best practices in risk management of emerging transboundary animal diseases due to climate change in Europe and Central Asia. Cooperation across the Region and priorities for action.

Reducing the advance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in food and agriculture (note this could be a separate agenda item).

### ***1.4. UNFCCC Paris agreement: addressing the INDCs/NDCs in agriculture and relevant sectors***

The item will review commitments in the INDC/NDCs from the region and look at potential interventions and solutions at agricultural and landscape level that would help members in achieving their Paris agreement while ensuring sustainable production and viable incomes of especially smallholders.

## **ITEM 2 - Fostering trade integration**

### ***2.1 Value Chain development and its contribution to foster trade integration in Europe and Central Asia?***

From multilateral trade agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to national trade and domestic agricultural policies, impact of domestic support measures on trade. Improving national capacities in trade dispute and negotiation. Trade related sanitary and phytosanitary issues, international food safety and quality standards, agrifood policy transparency. Examples of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan in meeting WTO commitments, improving access to new markets, and ensuring compliance with trade rules and regulations, SPS measures.

### ***2.2 Producing and consuming locally – reducing agriculture environmental foot-print through local markets, implications for policy and food safety***

Integration of informal food market into local food systems for sustainable development, food security and nutrition in developing economies of Europe and Central Asia

Challenges of market integration of “household-scale” (micro-scale) farmers and small scale food producers, their income and livelihoods needs. Connecting producers and consumers of micro home-grown produce and prepared food, their importance in women’s income, the invisible home labour economy.

Food safety in informal food markets. Nutrition benefits and risks for micro scale food producers,

food safety, marketing and food systems-inclusive regulatory measures. The food systems of transition economies

### **ITEM 3 - Addressing the Gender Gap in Agriculture in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Responding to challenges in the implementation of the Gender Strategy**

Action Plan to Promote socially inclusive rural development in Europe and Central Asia.

Reporting on the status of the cross-cutting work in the Europe and Central Asia Region since abolishing the Working Party on Women; gender statistics, capacity development and advocacy.

Working on gender sensitive Social protection

Institutional challenges? Interagency collaboration, linkage between the local and the national institutions.

### **ITEM 4 – Reviewing the finding of the assessment on the ECA**

The agenda item will review and allow members to discuss the findings of the assessment undertaken on the ECA.

### **Proposal of SIDE EVENTS, before the dinner 1<sup>st</sup> day and lunch 2<sup>nd</sup> day**

- 1) Climate change and Migration - Labor migration and its effects for rural livelihoods and agriculture.
- 2) Presentation of Food Security and Nutrition Regional Panorama.