



UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE 32ND REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

(Tashkent, Uzbekistan)

(prepared by the ERC Secretariat)

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Director-General has decided, in consultation with the Minister for Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and discussion with the Europe Regional Group (ERG), to postpone the dates of the 32nd Regional Conference for Europe (ERC) to the second half of 2020. The Consultation of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), planned to take place before the Conference, is postponed together with the ERC.

Official letters informing about the postponement of the ERC were sent out in the past week from the Assistant Director-General to all invitees, including Members of the region, observers and associate members, UN Agencies and Inter-Governmental Organizations.

Further information on the new dates, technical and logistical details along with relevant updates will be shared at a later stage in coordination with the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan.

Meeting documents will continue to be web posted on the website of the 32nd Session of the ERC (<http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/erc32/en/>) as soon as they become available.

Documents pending to be published are the following:

- Sustainable Food Systems and Healthy Diets in Europe and Central Asia (ERC/20/2)
- Results and Priorities for FAO in the Region (ERC/20/5)
- Contribution of Results in the Europe and Central Asia Region to FAO Strategic Objectives in the 2018-19 Biennium (ERC/20/5/Web Annex 2)
- Status of Biodiversity in Europe and Central Asia – Challenges and Opportunities for Dynamic Conservation of Biodiversity (ERC/20/INF/11)
- Statement of Competence and Voting Rights Submitted by the European Union and its Member States (ERC/20/INF/16) – *pending inputs from the European Union at a later stage*

As the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic is evolving, and as the implications are not yet known, some of the published documents may need to be further amended to reflect the new developments.