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FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Thirty-sixth Session

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-11 March 2022

**Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2022-2025 for the FAO
Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific**

Executive Summary

This document frames the work of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC) for the period 2022-2025. It takes into consideration the views expressed by member countries at the 35th Session of APRC held in September 2020. It reflects the strategic roles and functions of the Regional Conference.

A report on how FAO's regional activities have addressed regional priorities during 2020-21, as well as priorities and recommendations of the regional technical commissions, along with the plans and priorities of partners such as the Regional Economic Organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector, is presented in document APRC/22/9.

Suggested action by the Regional Conference

The Regional Conference is invited to endorse this MYPoW for the period 2022-2025.

Queries on the content of this document may be addressed to:

APRC Secretariat

APRC@fao.org

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Introduction

1. A Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2020-2023 for the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC) was endorsed at the 35th Session of APRC virtually hosted by Bhutan from 1 to 4 September 2020. Members encouraged regular and systematic review of the performance and efficiency of the Regional Conference, and looked forward to receiving a full report at its next session.¹
2. It is recalled that the Regional Conference reviews the situation in the region regarding matters pertaining to the Organization's mandate, and provides advice and action-oriented recommendations to the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, and to the FAO Council on matters pertaining to priorities, programmes and budget of the Organization.
3. The Regional Conference provides regional perspectives on FAO's strategies and priorities and formulates concrete recommendations on regional activities, also contributing to enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. It also conducts regional-level assessments, to feed into improved sustainability of agriculture and food security. It exercises oversight of the functions and activities of FAO in the region, in accordance with the Basic Texts of the Organization. It operates efficiently and effectively, collaborating where appropriate with relevant partner organizations.
4. Ministerial consultations held during the 35th Session generated a consensus on policy guidance to the Organization, informed by Senior Officers' technical deliberations. The far-reaching negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were a central topic of discussion in the last Regional Conference.
5. The technical commissions of the region review technical aspects and issues of importance in the areas of Fisheries (APFIC), Forestry (APFC), Agricultural Statistics (APCAS), Plant Protection (APPPC) and Animal Production and Health (APHCA). Their recommendations complement and inform the discussions during the APRC on the Programme of Work, its strategic focus and the Regional Initiatives.
6. The MYPoW 2022–2025 is hereby presented for consideration by the 36th Session of the APRC.

Results

Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

7. Result 1:
 - a. Regional Conference recommendations and guidance on regional priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budget, as well as on the issues pertaining to food security, agriculture and rural development in the region, provide a sound basis for decision-making by the Council and the Conference, as appropriate. The Regional Conference would set priorities under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, in alignment with identified regional and sub-regional priorities and special initiatives.
8. Indicators and targets:
 - a. Clear and specific recommendations made by APRC to the Council through the Programme and Finance Committees, regarding FAO's priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budget in the region, as appropriate with relevant indicators and targets. Indicators/targets should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound (SMART);

¹ APRC/20/REP, para. 52

- b. Regional Conference recommendations relating to the regional priorities, the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, the Medium Term Plan 2022-25 and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) 2022-23, reflected in the Council and Conference reports;
 - c. APRC guidance on regional issues receives due attention at the Council and Conference, as well as in other relevant Governing Bodies.
9. Output:
 - a. Results-based information on past programme implementation and achievement will be provided to the Regional Conference. Detailed progress on regional activities implemented under the Regional Offices' oversight, including on the Regional Initiatives, would also be available for the Regional Conferences' review;
 - b. Clear, precise and action-oriented recommendations for Council on priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budget for the region.
10. Activities:
 - a. Review implementation of regional priorities in the region;
 - b. Review decisions and recommendations from the regional technical commissions, and other relevant institutions and meetings relevant to the region;
 - c. Review the performance of the Organization in the region, including the past programme implementation and achievement in identified Programme Priority Areas, including Regional Initiatives, Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs) as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking into account the related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations;
 - d. Make recommendations on the plans, programmes and projects carried out by the Organization in the region, including specific priorities for FAO's work in the region.
11. Working methods:
 - a. Coordination with relevant Statutory Bodies, including the regional technical commissions and other relevant institutions in the region;
 - b. Informal consultations among Members, as appropriate, to foster continued dialogue during the intersession period;
 - c. Regular contacts between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative, including informal coordination meetings with the secretariats of the regional technical commissions;
 - d. FAO Representatives organize in-country meetings to discuss the technical papers that will be presented to APRC. These meetings will be open to any interested government officers, as well as relevant stakeholders from civil society, private sector, academia, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)/Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), farmers' organizations, youth groups, among others.

Monitoring of, and advice on, policy and regulatory matters

12. Result 2:
 - a. Regional Conference recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory matters.
13. Indicators and targets:
 - a. Clear, action-oriented recommendations included in the Regional Conference report;
 - b. Regional Conference recommendations taken up by the FAO Conference.
14. Output:
 - a. Clear recommendations for the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory matters.
15. Activities:

- a. Review the status of key international instruments of relevance to the region, and major developments and initiatives in other fora impacting on the mandate of FAO;
 - b. Consider the recommendations from FAO Statutory Bodies, including the regional technical commissions, and other meetings of relevance to the region;
 - c. Address new and emerging issues and recommend concerted actions by FAO and other relevant bodies in the region;
 - d. Consider the desirability of developing international agreements for the region.
16. Working methods:
- a. Review of regional and global trends in policies and regulations of relevance to the region;
 - b. Liaison with relevant FAO Statutory Bodies and other institutions in the region;
 - c. Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative, including informal coordination meetings with the secretariats of the regional technical commissions.
- Work planning and working methods***
17. Result 3:
- a. The Regional Conference operates effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.
18. Indicators and targets:
- a. Regional Conference agendas are strategically focused;
 - b. Regional Conference allows for broader and more frequent exchanges of views and experiences among delegates, as well as with other major regional organizations;
 - c. Regional Conference decisions are taken by consensus;
 - d. Regional Conference reports are concise, articulating specific, action-oriented recommendations, and are made available to Members in a timely manner;
 - e. Regional Conference documents adhere to corporate presentation standards, and are made available in the required languages six weeks before the session commences;
 - f. At least 70 percent of Members participate at a senior level in the Regional Conference.
19. Outputs:
- a. Multi-year Programme of Work for the Regional Conference (MYPoW) adopted;
 - b. Methods of work of the Regional Conference kept under review and improvements sought regularly.
20. Activities:
- a. Consult with Members on agenda and format of the Regional Conference;
 - b. Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including enhanced focus and efficient use of the time available;
 - c. Review Rules of Procedure for the Regional Conference;
 - d. Regular review of methods of work, including performance measures;
 - e. Review of the status of implementation of the Regional Conference recommendations.
21. Working methods:
- a. Consult with Members, through the Chairperson of the Regional Conference;
 - b. Intersessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson of the Regional Conference through the Bureau, with support from the Secretariat;
 - c. Structured and focused deliberations as well as inclusive interventions during sessions;
 - d. Efficient drafting and finalization of the reports;
 - e. Secretariat support for the implementation of, and follow up to, the MYPoW;
 - f. Informal meetings of the Chairpersons of the Regional Groups and senior members of the Secretariat, facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of Council (ICC).