

REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF FAO

Hundred and Sixty-ninth Session
8 April 2022



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

COUNCIL

(as from the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Hans Hoogeveen

Afghanistan ²	Canada ¹	Indonesia ³	Russian Federation ⁴
Angola ¹	Chile ³	Israel ⁶	Saudi Arabia ²
Argentina ¹	China ³	Italy ⁷	South Africa ²
Australia ²	Congo ³	Japan ³	Spain ^{3,9}
Bahamas ¹	Costa Rica ¹	Kuwait ³	Sudan ⁵
Bangladesh ³	Egypt ²	Luxembourg ⁴	Sweden ²
Belarus ³	Equatorial Guinea ³	Malaysia ^{2,8}	Tunisia ²
Belgium ¹	Eritrea ²	Mexico ⁴	United States of America ¹
Bosnia and Herzegovina ³	Ethiopia ³	Nicaragua ³	Zimbabwe ¹
Brazil ¹	France ⁴	Pakistan ²	
Burkina Faso ¹	Guatemala ⁴	Peru ³	
Burundi ⁵	Guinea ¹	Philippines ³	
Cameroon ⁴	India ²	Qatar ¹	
		Republic of Korea ³	

¹ Term of office: end of the 41st Session of the Conference (June 2019) to 30 June 2022

² Term of office: 1 July 2020 – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

³ Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2024

⁴ Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁵ Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2022

⁶ Israel replaced Austria from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

⁷ Italy replaced France 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

⁸ Malaysia will replace Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁹ United Kingdom will replace Spain from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024

COUNCIL

(as from 1 July 2022)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Hans Hoogeveen

Afghanistan ¹	Congo ²	Iraq ³	Qatar ³
Angola ³	Costa Rica ³	Israel ³	Republic of Korea ²
Argentina ³	Côte d'Ivoire ³	Japan ²	Russian Federation ⁴
Australia ¹	Egypt ¹	Kenya ³	Saudi Arabia ¹
Bahamas ³	Equatorial Guinea ²	Kuwait ²	Slovenia ³
Bangladesh ²	Eritrea ¹	Luxembourg ⁴	South Africa ¹
Belarus ²	Ethiopia ²	Malaysia ^{1,5}	Sweden ¹
Bosnia and Herzegovina ²	France ⁴	Mauritania ³	Tunisia ¹
Brazil ³	Germany ³	Mexico ³	United Kingdom ^{2,6}
Cameroon ⁴	Guatemala ⁴	Nicaragua ²	United States of America ³
Canada ³	Guinea ³	Pakistan ¹	
Chile ²	India ¹	Peru ²	
China ²	Indonesia ²	Philippines ²	

¹ Term of office: 1 July 2020 – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

² Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2024

³ Term of office: 1 July 2022 – end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025)

⁴ Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁵ Malaysia replaced Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁶ United Kingdom will replace Spain from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024

REPORT

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Introductory Items¹

1. The 169th Session of the Council was held on 8 April 2022, under the Chairpersonship of Mr Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the Council.
2. The one-day, unplanned Session of the Council was convened in line with Rule XXV, paragraph 1, of the General Rules of the Organization, and Rule II, paragraph 4, of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, on request received in writing from 43 Member Nations and co-signed by one Member Organization, and subsequent consultation between the Director-General and the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC).
3. The Session was convened in hybrid modality, on an exceptional basis, and without creating a precedent, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns, with some representatives attending in person at FAO headquarters and others participating virtually.
4. The Council confirmed, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, that it agreed to the suspension of any rules incompatible with the hybrid setting, specifically Rule II.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, which provides that each session of the Council shall be held at the seat of the Organization.

Statement by the Director-General²

5. The Director-General, Dr QU Dongyu, delivered a statement to Council.

Adoption of the Agenda³

6. The Council noted the Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights presented by the European Union, and adopted the Agenda for the Session.
7. The Agenda is given in *Appendix A* to this Report.

Election of three Vice-Chairpersons⁴

8. The Council elected three Vice-Chairpersons for its Session: Mr Khaled Ahmad Zekriya (Afghanistan); Ms Demitu Hambisa Bonga (Ethiopia); and Ms Michèle Pranchère-Tomassini (Luxembourg).

¹ CL 169/PV/1; CL 169/PV/2

² CL 169/PV/1; CL 169/PV/2

³ CL 169/1; CL 169/INF/4; CL 169/PV/1; CL 169/PV/2

⁴ CL 169/PV/1; CL 169/PV/2

Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)⁵

9. The Council voted against a motion to suspend the meeting as provided for in the provisions of Rule XII-21 and XII-24 of the General Rules of the Organization.

10. The Council decided by vote^{6,7} to adopt the Proposal contained in document CL 169/4, and co-sponsored by 80 FAO Members including 22 Member Nations of the Council as outlined in document CL 169/4 Add.1. Accordingly, the Council adopted the following decision:

11. **The Council:**

- a) **endorsed and reaffirmed the Resolution adopted on 2 March 2022 by the United Nations General Assembly at its 11th emergency special session (A/RES/ES-11/1);**
- b) **affirmed that the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, with the involvement of Belarus, is in violation of the objectives and purposes of the Organization as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution and of the obligations accepted by the Russian Federation and Belarus as Members of the Organization, and demanding the immediate cessation of the use of force against Ukraine, including the targeting of civilians and civilian food supply and agricultural infrastructure and the further aggravation of world food insecurity;**
- c) **expressed the gravest concern about the impact of the conflict on increased food insecurity globally, as Ukraine, the Russian Federation, and the region are one of the world's most important areas for grain, oilseed, and other agriculture exports, when millions of people are already facing hunger or the immediate risk of hunger or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world;**
- d) **stressed the role of FAO, in coordination and collaboration with other United Nations entities and relevant bodies, especially the Rome-based agencies and international financial institutions, to address within its mandate the consequences of the conflict within Ukraine and on world food security and agriculture;**
- e) **requested the Director-General:**
 - i. **to leverage FAO's role as a knowledge institution to closely monitor the implications on world food security and agriculture, including through the regular, comprehensive data analysis on the effects of the conflict on food systems;**
 - ii. **to review and make recommendations on the conflict's implications for FAO's implementation of its Strategic Framework (2022-2031) and Programme of Work and Budget (2022-2023);**
 - iii. **to develop immediate, medium-term, and longer-term plans to address the global food security impacts of the conflict in Ukraine, including emergency response, recovery assistance, and resilience building in food systems; and**
 - iv. **to keep Members notified in this regard through regular briefings, consultations, and reporting to the FAO Governing Bodies; and**
- f) **decided to add this matter to the agenda of the next regular session of the FAO Council in June 2022.**

⁵ CL 169/3; CL 169/3 Add.1; CL 169/4; CL 169/4 Add.1; CL 169/5; CL 169/6; CL 169/7; CL 169/PV/1; CL 169/PV/2;

⁶ Roll call vote with total votes cast: 27; votes in favour: 23; votes against: 4; abstentions: 16.

⁷ Brazil, China, Egypt and Indonesia issued an Explanation of Vote which can be consulted in the Verbatim Records of the session (CL 169/PV/2)

12. The Council, through a roll call vote as per the provisions of Rule XII-7(a), rejected the proposal for decision as contained in CL 169/6.⁸

13. Furthermore, Members of the Council underlined the preeminent role of FAO in global food and agriculture matters, and stressed the importance to continue working within the Constitution and mandate of the Organization as a specialized agency of the United Nations.

14. The Council reviewed documents CL 169/3 and CL 169/3 Add. 1,

and Members stressed the need for joint, coordinated actions and policy responses, including FAO's support to Members, to address current challenges, and to mitigate the impact on food insecurity at domestic and global levels, including:

- a) keeping trade in food and fertilizers open, thus enabling the Russian Federation and Ukraine to meet domestic production and consumption needs, while also satisfying global demands;
- b) finding new and more diverse food supplies, so that countries that rely directly on food imports from Ukraine and the Russian Federation may absorb the shocks from the war and remain resilient;
- c) providing support to vulnerable groups, such as those in line with the FAO Ukraine Rapid Response Plan March-May 2022, including support for internally displaced people, refugees and those directly affected by the war;
- d) avoiding policy reactions, by weighing up carefully measures put in place in countries affected by potential disruptions from the war against their potentially detrimental effect on international markets in the short-term and over the longer term;
- e) strengthening global market transparency and enabling dialogue and coordination among Members through initiatives such as the G-20's Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS); and
- f) containing the spread of African swine fever (ASF).

15. The Council expressed appreciation to FAO and its work in Ukraine and other conflict-affected areas, noted the data provided by the Organization and underlined the importance of retaining the integrity of decisions taken previously by the Council and Conference with regard to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31.

⁸ Indonesia issued an Explanation of Vote which can be consulted in the Verbatim Records of the session (CL 169/PV/2)

Appendix A

Agenda for the 169th Session of the Council

Opening by the Independent Chairperson of the Council

Address by the Director-General

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Item 2: Election of three Vice-Chairpersons

Item 3: Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Item 4: Any other matters

Appendix B

List of Documents

CL 169/1	Provisional Agenda
CL 169/3	Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
CL 169/3 Add.1	Addendum 1 – Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
CL 169/4	Annex to the Letters from FAO Members - proposal for discussion and decision by the Council
CL 169/4 Add.1	Letter from 80 FAO Members co-sponsoring proposal for decision by the Council
CL 169/5	Letter from the Russian Federation - proposal for the 169th Session of the Council
CL 169/6	Letter from the Russian Federation - proposal for draft conclusions
CL 169/7	Letter from Nicaragua - proposal for the agenda of the 169th Session of the Council

CL 169 INF Series

CL 169/INF/2	Letters from FAO Members - request to convene an unscheduled session of the Council, and proposal for its agenda and draft decision
CL 169/INF/3	Letter from the Russian Federation - proposal for the 169th Session of the Council
CL 169/INF/4	Statement of competence and voting rights submitted by the European Union and its Member States
CL 169/INF/5	Letter from France and the United States of America - formal proposal for decision by the Council

Other Documents

	List of Delegates and Observers
CL 169/Draft Report	Draft Report of Plenary

CL 169 PV Series

CL 169/PV/1 to Verbatim Records of Plenary

CL 169/PV/2

CL 169 OD Series

CL 169/OD/1 Order of the Day

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Yael Rubinstein
(Israel)

Members

Argentina (Mr Carlos Bernardo Cherniak)
Brazil (Mr Fernando José Marroni de Abreu)
Canada (Mr Maarten de Groot)
China (Mr Ni Hongxing)
France (Ms Delphine Babin-Pellier)
India (Mr Bommakanti Rajender)

Iraq (Mr Zaid Al-Ani)
Mali (Ms Traoré Halimatou Koné)
New Zealand (Mr Donald Syme)
Norway (Mr Morten Aasland)
Sudan (Ms Saadia Elmubarak Ahmed Daak)
Zambia (Mr Kayoya Masuhwa)

<https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/programme-committee/substitute-representatives/en/>

FINANCE COMMITTEE (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Imelda Smolcic
(Uruguay)

Members

Australia (Ms Lynda Hayden)
Egypt (Mr Haitham Abdelhady)
Ethiopia (Mr Kaba Urgessa Dinssa)
Japan (Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro)
Mexico (Mr Miguel García Winder)
Niger (Ms Rahila Rabiou Tahirou)

Panama (Mr Tomás Duncan Jurado)
Russian Federation (Mr Vladimir V. Kuznetsov)
Saudi Arabia (Mr Mohammed M. Alghamdi)
Sweden (Ms Pernilla Ivarsson)
Thailand (Mr Thanawat Tiensin)
United States of America (Ms Jennifer Harhigh)

<https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/finance-committee/substitute-representatives/en/>

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Alison Storsve
(United States of America)

Members

Afghanistan (Mr Khaled Ahmad Zekriya)
Algeria (Ms Lamia Ben Redouane)
Canada (Ms Julie Emond)
Fiji (Ms Esala Nayasi)

Nicaragua (Ms Mónica Robelo Raffone)
Philippines (Ms Nina P. Cainglet)
Slovakia (Ms Zora Weberova)

WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD 2022

Term of office expiring

31 December 2022

Elected by FAO Council

Canada (D)
Dominican Republic (C)¹
Germany (D)
Saudi Arabia (B)
Somalia (A)
South Africa (A)²

Elected by ECOSOC

Australia (D)
Burundi (A)
Cuba (C)
Madagascar (A)
Spain (D)
Turkmenistan (B)

31 December 2023

Argentina (C)^{3,4}
Brazil (C)⁵
Denmark (D)
Hungary (E)
Morocco (A)
Norway (D)

China (B)
Japan (D)
Lesotho (A)
Mexico (C)
Poland (E)
United Kingdom (D)

31 December 2024

Bangladesh (B)⁶
Iran (B)⁷
Netherlands (D)
Peru (C)
Senegal (A)
United States of America (D)

Ghana (A)
India (B)
Republic of Korea (B)
France (D)
Sweden (D)
Russian Federation (E)

¹Dominican Republic replaced Argentina from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

² South Africa replaced Angola from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

³ Rotating seat occupied by a country of List C (2021-2023) held by Argentina

⁴ Argentina replaced Guatemala from 1 January 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

⁵ Brazil and Guatemala reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Brazil serving in 2021 and 2022 and Guatemala serving in 2023.

⁶ Bangladesh and Iran reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Bangladesh serving from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023 and Iran occupying the seat from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2024.

⁷ Iran and Kuwait reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Iran serving from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and Kuwait occupying the seat from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

FAO MEMBERS

194 Member Nations
2 Associate Members
1 Member Organization

Afghanistan	Gambia	Palau
Albania	Georgia	Panama
Algeria	Germany	Papua New Guinea
Andorra	Ghana	Paraguay
Angola	Greece	Peru
Antigua and Barbuda	Grenada	Philippines
Argentina	Guatemala	Poland
Armenia	Guinea	Portugal
Australia	Guinea-Bissau	Qatar
Austria	Guyana	Republic of Korea
Azerbaijan	Haiti	Republic of Moldova
Bahamas	Honduras	Romania
Bahrain	Hungary	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	Iceland	Rwanda
Barbados	India	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Belarus	Indonesia	Saint Lucia
Belgium	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Belize	Iraq	Samoa
Benin	Ireland	San Marino
Bhutan	Israel	Sao Tome and Principe
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Italy	Saudi Arabia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jamaica	Senegal
Botswana	Japan	Serbia
Brazil	Jordan	Seychelles
Brunei Darussalam	Kazakhstan	Sierra Leone
Bulgaria	Kenya	Singapore
Burkina Faso	Kiribati	Slovakia
Burundi	Kuwait	Slovenia
Cabo Verde	Kyrgyzstan	Solomon Islands
Cambodia	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Somalia
Cameroon	Latvia	South Africa
Canada	Lebanon	South Sudan
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Spain
Chad	Liberia	Sri Lanka
Chile	Libya	Sudan
China	Lithuania	Suriname
Colombia	Luxembourg	Sweden
Comoros	Madagascar	Switzerland
Congo	Malawi	Syrian Arab Republic
Cook Islands	Malaysia	Tajikistan
Costa Rica	Maldives	Thailand
Côte d'Ivoire	Mali	Timor-Leste
Croatia	Malta	Togo
Cuba	Marshall Islands	Tokelau
Cyprus	Mauritania	(Associate Member)
Czechia	Mauritius	Tonga
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mexico	Trinidad and Tobago
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Micronesia	Tunisia
Denmark	(Federated States of)	Turkey
Djibouti	Monaco	Turkmenistan
Dominica	Mongolia	Tuvalu
Dominican Republic	Montenegro	Uganda
Ecuador	Morocco	Ukraine
Egypt	Mozambique	United Arab Emirates
El Salvador	Myanmar	United Kingdom
Equatorial Guinea	Namibia	United Republic of Tanzania
Eritrea	Nauru	United States of America
Estonia	Nepal	Uruguay
Eswatini	Netherlands	Uzbekistan
Ethiopia	New Zealand	Vanuatu
European Union	Nicaragua	Venezuela
(Member Organization)	Niger	(Bolivarian Republic of)
Faroe Islands	Nigeria	Viet Nam
(Associate Member)	Niue	Yemen
Fiji	North Macedonia	Zambia
Finland	Norway	Zimbabwe
France	Oman	
Gabon	Pakistan	