



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COUNCIL

Hundred and Thirty-sixth Session

Rome, 15-19 June 2009

CALENDAR OF FAO GOVERNING BODIES AND OTHER MAIN SESSIONS 2009-2011

1. The Council at its Sixty-sixth Session (June 1975) requested that a schedule of sessions of Governing Bodies for the following biennium be submitted for approval, and reviewed at subsequent sessions of the Council as required. The Secretariats of FAO, IFAD and WFP jointly prepare this calendar of main sessions in an endeavour to harmonize the sessions of their respective Governing Bodies which require the participation of Rome-based Permanent Representatives.
2. A Revised Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions for 2009 is given in Annex A. Any further adjustments to the schedule of sessions for 2009 would be made in consultation with the Independent Chairperson of the Council and reported to future sessions of the Council.
3. The draft provisional calendar for 2010-2011 set out in Appendix B takes into account Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) indications on the new sequence of Governing Body meetings (see Appendix D), as well as dates already established for WFP and IFAD sessions. Given that the next biennium will be a period of transition from the previous sequence of meetings to the IPA model, dates proposed for the 2010 round of Regional Conferences and sessions of the Technical Committees have been scheduled to the extent possible in the quarter indicated in the IPA. Variations from the sequence outlined in the IPA are underlined. Such variations came about following views expressed at the 2009 sessions of the Committee on Fisheries¹ and the Committee on Forestry².
4. The Council at its Hundred and Thirty-eighth session (23 November 2009) will be requested to approve formally the provisional Calendar for 2010 and take note of the proposed

¹ Para 105 of CL 136/2 refers.

² Para 23 of CL 136/3 refers.

calendar for 2011. It is important, however, that the Council at its present session give its guidance on the overall sequence of Governing Bodies proposed in Appendix B to enable preparations for meetings scheduled for the first half of 2010 to go ahead.

5. The Independent Chairperson of the Council circulated the draft calendar set out in Appendix B to the Chairpersons of the Regional Groups on 22 April 2009, inviting them to react to the proposed sequence of meetings. Appendix C summarizes inputs received by the 3 June 2009 deadline set by the Independent Chairperson.

6. The Council is thus invited to take note of changes made to the Calendar for 2009 and offer guidance on the draft calendar for 2010-2011.

Appendix A

Revised Calendar of FAO/IFAD/WFP Governing Bodies and Other Main Sessions 2009

	2009		
JANUARY			
FEBRUARY	84 CCLM*	2-4	
	124 FC*	5-6	
	WFP*	9-13	
	ECOSOC 1	10-13	
	IFAD/GC*	16-20	
	85 CCLM*	23-24	
MARCH	28 COFI	2-6	
	125 FC*	9-10	
	19 COFO	16-20	
	29 APRC*	26-31	
APRIL	67 CCP	20-22	
	21 COAG	22-25	
	IFAD/EB	27-30	
MAY	86 CCLM*	7-8	
	126 FC	11-15	
	101 PC	11-15	
	87 CCLM*	25-26	
	127 FC*	27-28	
JUNE	WFP	8-12	
	136 CL	15-19	
	32 CODEX	29/06 - 4/07 (Rome)	
JULY	ECOSOC 2	6-31	
	128 FC*	27-31	
	102 PC*	27-31	
AUGUST			
SEPTEMBER	IFAD/EB*	14-15	
	UNGA	15	
	88 CCLM*	23-25	
	137 CL	28/09 - 2/10	
OCTOBER	35 CFS*	14-17	
	WFD	16 (Friday)	
	XIII WFC	18-25	
NOVEMBER	WFP*	9-13	
	36 C	14- 21	
	138 CL	23	
DECEMBER	IFAD/EB	14-18	

Easter: 12 April 09
 Ramadan begins: 22 August 09
 Eid Al-Fitr: 21 Sept 09
 Eid Al-Adha: 28 Nov 09

APRC Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
 ARC Regional Conference for Africa
 C Conference
 CCLM Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters
 CCP Committee on Commodity Problems
 CFS Committee on World Food Security
 CL Council
 COAG Committee on Agriculture
 COFI Committee on Fisheries
 COFO Committee on Forestry
 ECOSOC Economic and Social Council (1: Organizational session opens; 2: Substantive session opens)

ERC Regional Conference for Europe
 FC Finance Committee
 IFAD/EB IFAD Executive Board
 IFAD/GC IFAD Governing Council
 LARC Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean
 NERC Regional Conference for the Near East
 PC Programme Committee
 UNGA United Nations General Assembly (Opening)
 WFD World Food Day
 WFP World Food Programme Executive Board
 WFC World Forestry Congress
 CODEX Codex Alimentarius Commission

* Change of dates compared to last calendar submitted to Council

Appendix B

Provisional Calendar of FAO/IFAD/WFP Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions

2010-2011

	2010		2011	
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY	ECOSOC 1 WFP IFAD/GC 30 APRC	2 8-12 15-19 22-26	ECOSOC 1 IFAD/GC WFP 141 CL	2 7-11 14-18 21-25
MARCH	30 NERC 26 ARC 89 CCLM	8-12 15-19 29-31	91 CCLM 131 FC 105 PC	7-9 21-25 21-25
APRIL	129 FC 103PC IFAD/EB 31 LARC	12-16 12-16 19-23 26-30	142 CL	11-15
MAY	27 ERC 139 CL	3-7 10-14	IFAD/EB	2-6
JUNE	WFP 68 CCP 22 COAG	7-11 14-16 16-19	WFP 37 C	6-10 25/06-02/07
JULY	ECOSOC 2	6-30	ECOSOC 2 143 CL 33 CODEX	4 – 29 4-5 11-16 (Rome)
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	90 CCLM IFAD/EB UNGA <u>29 COFI</u>	1-3 13-17 14 20-24	IFAD/EB UNGA 92 CCLM	12-16 13 21-23
OCTOBER	<u>20 COFO</u> CFS WFD 130 FC 104 PC	4-8 11-14 15 (Friday) 25-29 25-29	132 FC 106 PC WFD CFS	10-14 10-14 17 (Mon) 18-22
NOVEMBER	WFP 140 CL	8-12 29/11-03/12	WFP 144 CL	7-11 21 - 25
DECEMBER	IFAD/EB	13-17	IFAD/EB	12 - 16

Easter: 4 April 2010
 Ramadan: 11 Aug - 9 Sept. 2010
 Eid Al-Fitr: 9 September 2010
 Eid Al-Adha: 16 November 2010

Easter: 24 April 2011
 Ramadan: 1st-30 August 2011
 Eid Al-Fitr: 30 August 2011
 Eid Al-Adha: 6 November 2011

APRC	Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific	ERC	Regional Conference for Europe
ARC	Regional Conference for Africa	FC	Finance Committee
C	Conference	IFAD/EB	IFAD Executive Board
CCLM	Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters	IFAD/GC	IFAD Governing Council
CCP	Committee on Commodity Problems	IFAD/VII	Replenishment Consultations
CFS	Committee on World Food Security	LARC	Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean
CL	Council	MM	Ministerial Meeting
COAG	Committee on Agriculture	NERC	Regional Conference for the Near East
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (MM=Ministerial Meeting)	PC	Programme Committee
COFO	Committee on Forestry (MM=Ministerial Meeting)	UNGA	United Nations General Assembly (Opening)
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council (1: Organizational session opens; 2: Substantive session opens)	WFD	World Food Day
		WFP	World Food Programme Executive Board

Appendix C**Comments received on 10 June 2009 from the Asia Regional Group**

The Republic of Korea, the Host Country for the 30th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, has requested that the dates of the Regional Conference be changed to September or October 2010 due to elections scheduled to be held in June 2010 and inclement weather conditions during the summer months.

Comments received on 7 May 2009 from the Europe Regional Group

The draft calendars of FAO Governing Body meetings for 2010-11 are not completely in line with the IPA:

- Sessions of the Programme Committee and Finance Committee in the first semester of 2010 should be scheduled after the five Regional Conferences, and before Council sessions;
- No need for a Council session at the beginning of 2011 (proposed dates were 21-25 February 2011), although there should be an informal Budgetary meeting in the same period for information on the preparation of the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) for the following biennium.
- The Council session following the Conference should be a one day session for elections and nominations;
- The status of “briefings for Permanent Representatives” should be clarified as these are not Governing Body meetings.

Comments received on 5 June 2009 from the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Group

- In principle no objections to the proposed schedule, which should take into consideration IPA recommendations. The Group is, however, open to new suggestions.

Comments received on 18 May 2009 from the Near East Regional Group

- Supported the proposal to hold the Regional Conference for the Near East in April 2010

Comments received on 3 June 2009 from the North America Regional Group

- Broadly supportive of the proposal as it reflects the sequence agreed as part of FAO reform.
- Although there is agreement to have more frequent and shorter Council meetings, three Council sessions in twenty weeks (end-November 2010 to mid-April 2011) might be too much.

- The Membership has agreed to move away with drafting committees to the extent possible by having reports that only record formal decisions taken and do not characterize or summarize debates.
- Need to determine latest possible dates possible in 2010-11 biennium in which COFI could meet and have its input properly reflected in the PWB. Past practice, as noted in the COFI Chair's letter to the Director-General, has been to hold COFI in February or March of the second year of the biennium. With one fewer session of Council, perhaps COFI could be scheduled 21-25 February 2011 (assuming this is not too late for the PWB).
- As the 11 May 2009 letter from the Chair of COFI explains, September through December includes many competing fisheries events, and thus if the January-February 2011 timeframe cannot be made to work, then Canada's preference would be to have COFI move forward to June 2010.
- Canada supports the proposed scheduling of all the other meetings.

Comments received on 4 June 2009 from the South West Pacific Regional Group

- No comments at this stage. The draft calendar was being circulated among members of the Region. The South West Pacific Agriculture Ministers' Meeting will be held in Tonga in April 2011.

Appendix D

**Schedule for Governing Body Input and Oversight Under
The Reformed Programming, Budgeting and Results Based Monitoring Systems**

Process		YEAR 1				YEAR 2			
		First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
PLANNING	Review Implementation Performance Strategic Framework (Alternate biennia)	RC	PC/FC CL	TC	PC/FC CL	EB	PC/FC CL	CONF	PC/FC CL
	MTP-PWB (Next biennium)	Input on Priorities				Review/Approval		Adjustment	
IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING	Implementation Review and Adjustment (Current Biennium)								
	Results (Previous Biennium)								
EVALUATION	Impact								

Legend: RC: Regional Conference	TC: Technical Committees of Council MTP Medium-Term Plan	PC: Programme Committee PWB Programme of Work and Budget	FC: Finance Committee EB: Extra-Budgetary	CL: Council	CONF: Conference
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