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粮食及
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Продовольственная и
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Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

THIRTIETH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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ROUND TABLE – FROM DECLARATIONS TO ACTIONS: FOLLOW UP TO L'AQUILA INITIATIVE ON FOOD SECURITY AND WSFS IN THE REGION

1. As a response to the food price and financial crisis, world leaders at the 2009 meeting of the G-8 in L'Aquila, Italy, pledged USD 20 billion over three years for sustainable agriculture development and safety nets for vulnerable populations. The L'Aquila Joint Statement on Global Food Security (AFSI) has been endorsed by 27 countries and 15 international organizations. It is considered as a substantial recognition of the urgent need for decisive action to free humanity from hunger and poverty. The AFSI recognises the link between economic growth and social progress as well as with political stability and peace. Importantly, it states that "the food security agenda should focus on agriculture and rural development (ARD) by promoting sustainable production, productivity and rural economic growth, to be pursued in conjunction with social protection mechanisms such as safety nets and social policies for the most vulnerable".

2. Shortly after the L'Aquila G8 meeting, representatives of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) called a meeting of AFSI signatories together with representatives of the United Nations High Level Task Force on Global Food Security Crisis and selected International Financial Institutions and multilateral development organizations to plan the implementation of the AFSI. The first meeting in September 2009 of what has become known as the AFSI Working Group (WG) has been followed subsequently by meetings in December 2009 in Rome and April 2010 in Ottawa. These meetings have slowly built a consensus about the implementation of the AFSI and assisted in the development of a tracking mechanism that has enabled a detailed breakdown of the L'Aquila pledges including: a) total size of national pledges; b) pledge period; c) identification of new allocations; and d) indicative breakdown by sector (Appendix 1). AFSI Group members have also:

- stressed the need for improved development partner harmonization and alignment around country-led initiatives at national, regional and global levels, with an increased emphasis on demonstrating results;
- committed to maintain and encourage political momentum in support of technically sound regional and country-led initiatives, including food security investment plans;

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- agreed that the WG would track disbursements to the country-level against the tracking table in close coordination with the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD-DAC) and report this data as part of the WG process;
 - agreed that additional information was needed on the status of regional and country-led initiatives in Latin American, Caribbean, and Asian regions;
 - agreed on the completion, on a voluntary basis, of a matrix that includes information on where AFSI countries are active on food security, both bilaterally and regionally;
 - recognized the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) as a demonstration of progress and support for AFSI's country-level efforts;
 - recognized and supported the important role of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) on mapping activities on food security globally through the Phase II CFS work plan.
3. As of July 2010, 12 countries and the European Union have pledged a total of USD 22.4 billion under the AFSI. Of that total, USD 6.1 billion are "additional to previously planned expenditures". About USD 1.5 billion of this amount is allocated to development food aid/food security rather than investment. It is expected that the majority of funds pledged under AFSI will be administered through bilateral funding channels. With the current absence of information on pledge allocation by sector at country level, however, it is difficult to track AFSI disbursements. An AFSI meeting dedicated to harmonization, country-strategies and results is scheduled for the fall of 2010 on the margins of another food security event.
4. The GAFSP, a World Bank (WB) managed Financial Intermediary Fund (FID), established on 22 April 2010 under the auspices of the AFSI, is likely to provide the first tangible commitment of L'Aquila funds. Its purpose is to scale-up grant support to help poor countries alleviate poverty through investments consistent with the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA). Initial contributors include Canada, the Republic of Korea, Spain, the United States of America and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Total pledges now amount to USD 880 million with USD 350 million available in 2010. GAFSP financing will only apply to the 60 member countries of the International Development Association (IDA) that are eligible to receive financing from IDA and are not in arrears.
5. The public sector "window" of GAFSP is intended to mobilize and consolidate concessional funding for mid- to long-term country (and regional organization) owned and donor endorsed agriculture and food security investments that are additional to current programmes. The private sector subaccount "window" of GAFSP, to be implemented by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), will have the same end purpose and scope to the public sector ones, but will concentrate on those functions best carried out by private agents. Support for technical assistance and capacity building that contributes to the objectives of GAFSP and improves its efficiency would also be eligible to be financed by the programme. FAO, together with the World Food Program (WFP), are identified as a possible Technical Assistance (TA) provider, however, only multilateral development banks (MDBs) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will be eligible to manage country investment grants. Only legally identifiable Regional Economic Communities (RECs) will be eligible for direct TA support under the GAFSP. At country level, the TA input must be integrated into the proposed investment plan.
6. The GAFSP is managed by a Steering Committee (SC) comprising its donors and an equivalent number of developing country representatives (Bangladesh, Haiti, Mongolia, Senegal and Sierra Leone) all with voting rights. The SC also includes a senior WB representative, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative on Food Security and Nutrition, representatives from supervising entities (including IFAD, MDBs, FAO and WFP) and three representatives from civil society organizations. An external Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), supported by a small Coordination Unit at the WB, will provide the due diligence that proposals received are the result of acceptable country-led processes. The GAFSP SC has met in April, May and June 2010. The June meeting evaluated GAFSP funding applications from eight

countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, Mongolia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan and Togo) and awarded the following grants.

Country	GAFSP Grant (USD million)	Supervising Entity
Bangladesh	Investment: USD 46.33 million TA: USD 3.67 million	WB FAO
Haiti	USD 35 million	WB & (Inter-American Development Bank) IDB
Rwanda	USD 50 million	WB
Sierra Leone	USD 50 million (to be split between TA and investment)	IFAD FAO
Togo	USD 39 million	WB & IFAD

7. FAO will be the supervising entity for a USD 3.67 million GAFSP Technical Assistance (TA) grant to Bangladesh and for a similar, but as yet unspecified TA grant to Sierra Leone.

8. Since the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, FAO, in collaboration with the partners of the United Nations High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, has strongly supported the AFSI Group. In the Asia and Pacific Region, FAO, through its FAO Initiative on Soaring Food Prices (ISFP) has been closely engaged in the development of the Bangladesh agriculture production and food security Country Investment Plan (CIP) and associated GAFSP funding application. FAO has also supported the identification of GAFSP investment opportunities in Cambodia. FAO stands ready to support other member countries in the Region in the development of AFSI/GAFSP funding applications.

Appendix 1.

Tracking pledges on the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative
Table 1: Baseline Information on Pledges (million USD)¹

Country	Period of Pledge	ODA Pledge		Indicative Breakdown by Channel/Sector ²								
		Total	Additional ³	Multilateral Channel		Bilateral Channel: Distribution of pledge by sector ²						
				Voluntary Core ⁴	Earmarked and Trust Funds ⁵	Agriculture, Agro-Industries, Forestry, Fishing (311, 32161, 312, 313)	Nutrition (12240)	Development food aid/food security assistance (520)	with the main purpose of improving food security			
Transport & storage (210)	Safety nets (i.e. social welfare)	Rural development	Other (specify)									
Australia	Fiscal 2009/10 to 2012/13	360	360	34		194		6		85		41
Canada	Fiscal 2008/09 to 2010/11	1034	526	159	285	591						
European Commission	2010-2012	3800	742		87	686	42	799	1260	330	400	283
France	2009 - 2011	2161	365	145		1823		146				47
Germany	2010-2012	3000	1000	80	80	1300		320	160		160	900
Italy	2009-2011	428	180	120	30	120	10	40			88	20
Japan	2010-2012	3000				740			2260			
Netherlands	2009-2011	2000	139	246	78	382	7	68	57	208	97	1015
Russia	2009-2011	191	64	15	78		99					
Spain	2009-2011	696			696							
Sweden	2010-2012	522	14	195		327						
UK	Fiscal 2009/10 - 2011/12	1718	312	625	309	450		108	59		167	
US	Fiscal 10/2009 - 09/2012	3500	1751		475	3025	275					
Total		22101⁶	6,149									

¹ USD values of non-USD denominated pledges calculated at the 2009 annual average exchange rates against the USD.

² Sectoral distribution of donor pledges, to the extent known at the time of the pledge or estimated thereafter. DAC/CRS purpose codes are shown in parentheses. A full description of each of the relevant CRS codes can be found via the following link: [CRS codes](#)

- Agriculture, Agro-Industries, Forestry and Fishing (311, 32161, 312 and 313)
- Nutrition (12240)
- Transport and storage (210)
- Safety nets (i.e. social welfare services - 16010)
- Rural development (43040)
- Development food aid/food security assistance (520)
- Other, such as water supply and sanitation (140) or trade policy and regulations (331). Please specify, including relevant CRS code/s

NOTE: Emergency food aid (710) is excluded from this tracking exercise.

³ Appropriations for food security, additional to previously planned expenditures and representing spending plans above the baseline.

⁴ This covers voluntary contributions to multilateral institutions that have a main focus on food security (e.g. CGIAR, IFAD).

⁵ This covers aid to the programmes of multilateral organisations where donors have a control on the spending of money. It also includes multilateral programmes and Trust Funds (e.g. World Bank GAFSP).

⁶ In order to avoid possible double counting between UK and EU pledges, this total has been reduced by \$309 million.

