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منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación

TWENTY-SECOND FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

PORTO, PORTUGAL, 24-28 JULY 2000

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- 1. Opening Ceremony.
- 2. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of Rapporteur: *for decision*.
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable: *for decision* (ERC/00/1-Rev.2 and ERC/00/INF/2-Rev.2).
- 4. Setting up of Technical Committees and Appointment of Chairperson and for each Committe.

II. STATEMENTS

- 5. Statement by the Director-General (ERC/00/INF/4).
- 6. Country Statements on the Follow-up to the World Food Summit (ERC/00/3).

This Agenda item will provide Heads of Delegations the opportunity to make a statement on actions taken and progress achieved in implementing the World Food Summit Plan of Action thus contributing to the global reporting process to the Committee on Food Security (CFS) by the Regional Conference in accordance with para. 9(b) of CL 115/REP. The Secretariat will, under this item, provide a succinct report on what has been accomplished to-date in meeting the Summit goals both in terms of agricultural development to reduce food insecurity and in building global advocacy with participation of the civil society at large.

III. SELECTED ISSUES OF AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

7. Review of the State of Food and Agriculture in the Region: *for information* (ERC/00/4).

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8. Rebuilding and developing of agriculture in areas stricken by disaster and armed conflict (Balkans): *for information and/or discussion* (ERC/00/5).

Members will be informed of the measures taken by the Rome based agencies for food and agriculture to assist countries in the Balkans which suffered from civil strife, in particular Kosovo and the affected neighbouring countries in fulfilling UN Security Council Resolution 1244. Emergency assistance during and immediately after the conflict and development assistance to restore the productive capacity of the agricultural sector and the establishment of a local administration in Kosovo were among the priorities that have been faced with the view to ensure return to normal life for all concerned populations.

9. Multifunctional Character of Agriculture and Land: for discussion (ERC/00/6).

The multifunctional character of agriculture and land has been debated in a conference jointly organized by FAO and the Government of the Netherlands in Maastrict in September 1999. The purpose of the conference was to highlight the importance agriculture plays not only in producing the food we eat and the fibres we wear but also a wide range of other goods. It had also the purpose to show ways in which agricultural activities affect shaping the environment, as well as social and cultural systems and the multiple ways by which it contributes to economic growth. Broad themes covered dryland conservation, agricultural biodiversity, water, trade and environment, bio-energy and technology and research. Most of these topics are of relevance to the European Region and the purpose of this agenda item is to inform Members of the outcome of the Maastrict conference and allow for a debate on priority issues and recommendations within a European context for future action by Members and FAO.

- 10. Food Safety and Quality as affected by:
- 10.1 Organic Farming: for discussion (ERC/00/7)

In a number of European countries organic farming products already represent 10 percent of the food system, while others are experiencing high annual growth rates. Organic farming, contributes – by the techniques it uses – such as mulching, intercropping and biological pest control measures, to sustainable agriculture. It also contributes to increasing farm incomes as such products are sold at premium prices. In view of the increasing consumer interest for such products, the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission has recently produced a definition of organic farming and issued guidelines for such products qualifying as organic.

10.2 Animal Feedstuff: for discussion (ERC/00/8)

In June 1999, the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarious Commission set up an intergovernmental task force to elaborate standards for animal feeding. FAO (1997) had previously produced a draft Code of Practice for Good Animal Feeding. The draft Code covers good animal feeding practices and promotes the use of good practices in the procurement, handling, manufacturing, storage and distribution of commercially produced feeds for food producing animals. It provides guidance on general management of production processes, handling of pre-production ingredients and post-production storage and distribution practices. It also indicates that, in addition to BSE and dioxins, many other substances can contaminate animal feed. These include mycotoxins, agricultural and industrial chemicals, microbial pathogens, veterinary drug residues and heavy metals. The subject is topical and of high priority to Member Nations in the Region.

IV. ACTIVITIES OF FAO IN THE REGION

11. Report on FAO Activities in the Region: *for discussion* (ERC/00/2, ERC/00/2-Sup. and ERC/00/INF/8).

The document on this item will comprise (i) a detailed report on FAO activities in the Region, 1998-99; (ii) provide information on the activities of the Statutory Bodies concerning directly the European Region; and (iii) identify priorities for FAO activities in the Region within

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the Strategic Framework 2000-2015, with particular emphasis on countries with economies in transition.

12. Representation of the Region on the CGIAR: for information (ERC/00/INF/5).

V. OTHER MATTERS

- 13. Reflections on Agenda and Structure of the Regional Conference: for discussion and decision.
- 14. Date, Place and main theme(s) of the Twenty-third FAO Regional Conference for Europe: *for decision.*
- 15. Any other business.
- 16. Adoption of the Report.
- 17. Closure of the Conference.