

## council

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REPORT OF THE TENTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (COAG)

(Rome, 26 April - 5 May 1989)

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MATTERS REQUIRING THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

The Committee:

Implementation of the Programme of Work 1986-88

- (i) **urged** all members to pay their assessed contributions on time (para. 7).
- (ii) **stressed** the importance of a stable resource position for FAO, both within the Regular Programme and the Field Programme to enable FAO to respond with the requisite flexibility to the requirements of the member countries (para. 7).
- (iii) **urged** that continued priority be given to training and to strengthening of extension services, thereby maintaining a vital component of FAO's work (paras. 8 and 29).
- (iv) **recommended** that collaboration with other international organizations and UN agencies and cooperation with international research centres be continued and the multi-disciplinary approach in FAO activities intensified in an endeavour to ensure higher quality work and efficient use of FAO's scarce resources (paras. 10 and 25).
- (v) **emphasized** the need for more work on integrated plant nutrition systems and organic sources of plant nutrients for the improvement of soil fertility (para. 13).
- (vi) **encouraged** member countries cooperating with FAO to plan irrigation schemes better in order to avoid waterlogging and salinity problems (para. 14).
- (vii) **stressed** the need for continued efforts in soil and water conservation (para 14).
- (viii) **stressed** the important role of the Emergency Centre for Locust Operations and that the ECLLO future strategy should be based on combatting breeding grounds (para 18).
- (ix) **recommended** implementation of the preventive measures foreseen in the various regional and international plans on pest management (para. 18).
- (x) **recommended** the establishment of a better balance in resources, bearing in mind the importance of the livestock sector in improving the incomes of small-scale farmers (para. 22).
- (xi) **urged** FAO to continue the timely action on emergency diseases, in particular on the appearance of the American screwworm fly in North Africa, as well as on other animal diseases with an economic impact (para 24).
- (xii) **emphasized** the importance of environmental concerns related to sustainable agricultural development (para 27).

- (xiii) **emphasized** that FAO should strengthen its efforts in assisting member countries in the control and monitoring of the contaminants with particular reference to pesticides and radionuclides (para 36).
- (xiv) **stressed** the important role that FAO should play in helping member countries conduct agricultural analyses and sector reviews, formulate agricultural strategies, policies and plans, assist in their implementation, and in providing training in policy analysis, and **urged** that they be given high priority (para. 40).
- (xv) **stressed** the continuing need to improve access to markets for the commodity exports of developing countries (para. 42).
- (xvi) **encouraged** FAO to continue its assistance to developing countries in commodity policy formulation (para. 42).

Summary Programme of Work and Budget 1990-91

- (i) **expressed** appreciation of the considerations which had guided the formulation of the budgetary proposals for 1990-91 for Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture (para. 47).
- (ii) **supported** the policy of confirming the allocation of additional financial resources to the technical and economic programmes (para. 49).
- (iii) **endorsed** the main priority areas affecting more particularly Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture for which increased allocations had been proposed (para. 49).
- (iv) **agreed** that the proposals under Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture, represented a feasible and satisfactory mix of activities, in consonance with the request of Member Nations, as expressed in the Conference, the Council, the Regional Conferences and other inter-governmental fora. It considered that they provided an acceptable basis for the preparation of the full PWB for consideration by the 25th Session of the FAO Conference.
- (v) **welcomed** the emphasis now being given to participative planning methodologies (para. 56).
- (vi) **stressed** the importance of fertilizer activities for all countries but noted with regret the reduced level of activities of the international Fertilizer Supply Scheme (IFS) (para. 57).
- (vii) **supported** the priority accorded to sustaining resource potentials and the need to give FAO's many activities on sustainability also a special focus and visibility (para. 59).
- (viii) **recommended** the need for activities oriented toward biotechnology aiming at increasing agricultural production in developing countries and decreasing the technological gap between developed and developing countries (para. 64).

- (ix) **noted** that continued assistance in crop protection will be provided for as will also assistance to member countries for the implementation of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides (para. 66).
- (x) **recognized** the fundamental importance of the role of FAO in the locust campaign (ECL0) and insisted on the need for the strengthening of national plant protection services (para. 66).
- (xi) **urged** that action on emergency diseases such as those related to rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease be met with immediate response from FAO (para. 72).
- (xii) **requested** FAO to prepare adequate plans as soon as possible to combat the American screwworm fly in North Africa and to keep all interested countries and organizations informed about further developments (para. 73).
- (xiii) **noted** that activities related to the eradication of this devastating pest would require additional Regular Programme and extra-budgetary resources and that, in general, additional resources should be provided for animal disease control activities (para. 73).
- (xiv) **recommended** that the support for the control of ticks and tick-borne diseases, including the eradication of the tropical Bont tick from the Caribbean and trypanosomiasis control should be pursued (para. 74).
- (xv) **recommended** that the transfer through networks of new biotechnological methods for the diagnosis of animal diseases and vaccine production be further promoted (para. 74).
- (xvi) **requested** increased attention for in-house and external training on environmental issues related to agricultural and rural development (para. 83).
- (xvii) **stressed** the importance of marketing services especially for the small farmer and welcomed the focus on improved market extension services (para. 88).
- (xviii) **Urged** that increased technical assistance be provided to member countries to strengthen national food control systems to ensure that foods exported meet the requirements of importing countries and that foods that are imported are safe and of good quality (para. 94).
- (xix) **supported** the provision of technical assistance for the formulation of national food and nutrition policies and
- (xx) **stressed** the need for training local personnel especially in Africa, through subregional centres (para. 95).
- (xxi) **stressed** the importance of encouraging production of traditional food crops as a means of meeting food demand (para. 96).

- (xxii) **emphasized** the key importance of the statistical and information work of the Organization and the usefulness of the regular assessments at global and regional levels in the State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA), and the related policy analysis work (para. 97).
- (xxiii) **endorsed** the plans to develop a World Agricultural Information Centre (WAICENT) (para. 98).
- (xxiv) **urged** that more assistance be given to countries in the undertaking of agricultural censuses (para. 99).
- (xxv) **emphasized** that one of the core elements of FAO's analytical work was to continue to provide objective assessments of agricultural commodity and trade developments, particularly for low income countries heavily dependent on agricultural exports (para. 100).
- (xxvi) **emphasized** the importance of the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) in facilitating the response of donors and the governments of vulnerable countries to emerging food supply difficulties and
- (xxvii) **recognized** the need for further strengthening of the system as demands upon it from governments and international agencies continued to increase (para. 101).
- (xxviii) **endorsed** the high priority given to national food security and sectoral policy analysis and planning, the global and regional studies and commodity and trade work and urged that additional resources be provided (para. 102).
- (xxix) **supported** the priority proposed for providing analytical activities and guidance to member countries, especially in connection with structural adjustment processes (para. 103).
- (xxx) **requested** that consideration be given to the preparation of a regional policy and perspective study for the Asia and Pacific Region in 1990-91 (para. 106).

#### Urbanization, Food Consumption Patterns and Nutrition

- (i) **agreed** that the improvement of conditions in rural areas would help reduce migration to urban areas, and thus help mitigate the nutrition problems in the latter areas (para. 111).
- (ii) **supported** the need for short-term measures in the areas of food quality and safety, nutrition education, nutrition intervention and nutrition surveillance (para. 112).

- (iii) **stressed** the need for the preparation of suitable training materials for food vendors in the informal sector (para. 113).
- (iv) **urged** FAO to consider assisting member countries in developing suitable technologies for processing, preservation, better marketing and distribution of nutritious local staples, including the production of bread from domestically produced staples (para. 115).
- (v) **stressed** that FAO should consider assisting member countries in developing nutrition education programmes through the innovative and appropriate use of mass media (para 117).
- (vi) **emphasized** the importance of FAO's support for country level food and nutrition surveillance activities (para. 118).
- (vii) **emphasized** the need for FAO to monitor the impact on nutrition of development policies and of structural adjustment programmes (para. 118).
- (viii) **agreed** that FAO should also consider undertaking work on the potential for processing indigenous foods, the contribution of street foods to employment, the implementing of intervention programmes and household expenditure surveys (para. 119).
- (ix) **requested** that the dimension of urban malnutrition be included in the Sixth World Food Survey (para. 119)

#### Preservation of Animal Genetic Resources

- (i) **urged** FAO to expand the programme of animal genetic resource preservation and improved use as a matter of emergency (para. 126).
- (ii) **urged** FAO to devote new activities and technical support for accurate surveys, genetic classifications and risk status assessment as well as censuses (para. 127).
- (iii) **urged** FAO to develop a World Watch List of endangered animal breeds as a support mechanism and early warning for member countries and encouraged FAO to update and publish this list regularly (para. 127).
- (iv) **recommended** that, due to the accelerating threat to indigenous breeds, with unique genetic qualities, especially those which enable animals to live and produce in hostile environments, FAO develop documentation and preservation programmes concurrently (para. 128).
- (v) **recommended** that FAO develop appropriate methodologies for the establishment of live animal reserves for those countries and in those circumstances where the system is appropriate (para. 132).

- (vi) **encouraged** FAO to continue its work in exploring the use of new biotechnology methods applicable to animal genetic resources and to continue to study new developments concerning the use of DNA as a supplement to the storage of semen, embryos, and oocytes (para. 134).
- (vii) **urged** FAO to study closely the possibilities of joint programmes and cooperation with other bodies whose prime interest lies in wildlife (para. 135).
- (viii) **urged** FAO to develop further the training programmes for developing country nationals to equip them for participation in the Regional Animal Gene Banks and the Global Animal Genetic Data Bank programmes (para. 136).
- (ix) **emphasized** the importance of immediate financial support to avoid a period of inactivity while longer-term financial support for a global and genetic resources programmes was being developed (para. 136).
- (x) **encouraged** FAO to continue its close liaison with both intergovernmental organizations and NGOs concerned with animal genetic resources with the aim of developing a unified and comprehensive approach (para. 138).
- (xi) **approved** that FAO study the possibility of establishing a global system of genetic resources, including animal genetic resources (para. 140).

People's Participation in Agricultural and Rural Development

- (i) **stressed** the need for collecting information on the constitution and operation of small informal groups of rural people (para. 148).
- (ii) **urged** FAO to increase its collaboration with NGOs concerning people's organizations (para. 149).
- (iii) **encouraged** FAO to develop an operational methodology of participation for incorporation into larger rural development schemes (para. 150).
- (iv) **urged** member countries to provide full public support to participatory efforts and to sensitize public opinion, both in rural and urban areas, in order to promote and mobilize people's participation groups (para. 151).
- (v) **stressed** the importance of increasing receptiveness of government officials to people's initiatives and of orienting extension services as well as education, including at the primary and secondary level, towards promoting people's participation (paras. 152 and 153).

- (vi) stressed the importance of training local leaders and group promoters or organizers so as to improve their managerial and leadership capacities (para. 153).
- (vii) underlined the importance of credit delivery systems and group credit, the linkages between credit and savings and the availability of satisfactory marketing arrangements (para. 154).
- (viii) underlined that a plan of action should be developed to be discussed by the FAO Council and Conference, in due course, and in this connection, it took note with satisfaction of the offer made to contribute extra-budgetary funds for the preparation of such a plan of action.

Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides -  
Introduction of the "Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) Clause

- (i) noted the requirements of many countries for technical assistance and training of staff, necessary for a full implementation of the Code and PIC Clause (para. 161).
- (ii) stressed that FAO and UNEP should work closely together on the implementation of the PIC procedure (para. 165).
- (iii) proposed further amendments to the Code (para. 172).
- (iv) stressed the necessity of implementing PIC and providing progress reports (para. 173).
- (v) endorsed for submission to the Council the text of the Guidelines and the amendments of Articles 2 and 9 (para. 174).

Other Matters

- (i) urged the Secretariat to include a separate item on the agenda of the Eleventh Session of the Committee on Agriculture to discuss the issue of women in development (para. 31).
- (ii) agreed that three development topics be chosen from the following possible topics:
  - Agro-forestry and agro-sylviculture
  - Small-scale agriculture
  - Rainfed agriculture
  - Marketing
  - Home gardens and their contribution to nutrition (para. 177).
- (iii) suggested the following topics for discussion: agricultural credit for small-scale producers; technology advances and their effects on the agriculture sector in developing countries; importance of remote sensing for sustainable development; population programmes and agricultural development; biotechnology; crop production and food security; and crop and livestock farming in arid areas (para. 178).



(iv) recognized the advantage in holding committee sessions possibly in the second half of April or early in May, noting that the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, would propose the exact date, taking fully into account the overall meetings schedule of the Organization (para. 181).



## INTRODUCTION

1. The Tenth Session (Rome, 26 April-5 May 1989) was attended by 83 of the 93 Member Nations of the Committee, by observers from 4 other Member Nations of FAO, and by the Permanent Observer of the Holy See. Also participating were observers from seven bodies and organizations of the United Nations, representatives of the European Economic Community and of two intergovernmental organizations, and observers from 19 international organizations having status with FAO and a representative from the U.S.S.R. The list of Members of the Committee is attached as Appendix B, and the list of delegates, representatives and observers as Appendix C.

### Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

2. In accordance with Rule I of its Rules of Procedures, the Committee elected Mr. Yousef A. Hamdi (Egypt) as Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Carl Thomsen (Denmark) as First Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Bahar Munip (Malaysia) as Second Vice-Chairman.

### Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable for the Session

3. The Agenda as adopted is set out in Appendix A, and the list of documents is given in Appendix D.

4. The Committee appointed the following members for the Drafting Committee:

Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Cuba, India, Iran, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Tunisia, Spain and Zambia. Canada served as Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

### Statement by the Director-General

5. The Committee heard a statement by the Director-General which was delivered on his behalf by the Assistant Director-General of the Agriculture Department. This statement is attached as Appendix E.

## REVIEW OF FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

### Implementation of the Programme of Work 1986-88 1/

6. The Committee welcomed the report on the Implementation of Work 1986-88 which gave a clear and comprehensive review of FAO's activities during the preceding three years. It commended the continued improvements in the presentation and scope of the document, which had been made in response to earlier requests of the Committee, and which permitted a deeper analysis of the quantitative aspects of implementation. While appreciating the more qualitative evaluations made, particularly those carried in the supplementary document, some delegates would have liked to have seen such qualitative analyses carried further, and reflected in the analysis in the documents in order to assess progress made in specific programmes towards achieving FAO's objectives. Several delegations would have liked to have found more in the document on the real cost increases which were borne by the programme in 1988.

7. In reviewing the work carried out under the Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture, the Committee noted with concern the negative effects of the financial crisis. The Committee agreed that FAO, in general, had responded well to the financial constraints although all major areas had been affected. It felt that the situation which had necessitated programme cuts was most regrettable and hoped that it would not continue. Some members of the Committee felt that FAO should exercise the maximum possible flexibility to meet the needs of Member Nations. The Committee urged all members to pay their assessed contributions on time. The upturn in extra-budgetary resources by UNDP was noted with satisfaction. For sound, long-term

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1/ COAG/89/3; COAG/89/3-Sup. 1.

planned tasks and activities the Committee stressed, however, ...the importance of a stable resource position for FAO, both within the Regular Programme and the Field Programme to enable FAO to respond with the requisite flexibility to the requirements of the member countries. A number of members stressed the need for allocating resources to priority areas in order to cope within the available resources.

8. The Committee regretted the reported decline in FAO's activities in the broad area of training, especially that provided to member countries but to FAO staff as well. The Committee urged that continued priority be given to maintaining this vital component of FAO's work.

9. Some delegates noted an increased backstopping burden on the professional staff of FAO which, in their opinion, might have adverse effects on FAO's work.

10. The Committee recognized the effective contribution to development and use of FAO's resources that had been achieved through a considerable increase in collaboration with other international organizations and UN agencies and the more pronounced cooperation with the international research centres. At the same time, through noting a higher number of inter-departmental, inter-divisional working groups, FAO's increased inter- or multidisciplinary approach in its activities was commended. The Committee recommended that these efforts be continued and multiplied in an endeavour to ensure higher quality work and efficient use of its scarce resources. Most members of the Committee noted with satisfaction the greater involvement of Regional Offices and the use of networks and viewed these as important means to carrying out FAO's work.

#### 2.1.1 Natural Resources

11. The Committee endorsed the work under this sub-programme and welcomed its relevance to sustainable agricultural development and environmental protection.

12. The Committee noted the work on Farming Systems Development and appreciated improvements in the recommendations for necessary actions and policy adjustments for dry land areas.

13. The Committee welcomed the activities of the Fertilizer Programme and emphasized the need for more work on integrated plant nutrition systems and organic sources of plant nutrients for the improvement of soil fertility. It called for further action to increase the use of mineral fertilizer and expand it as an aid-in-kind programme. It appreciated the practical Field Programme approach adopted and urged expanded activities on nutrient deficiencies and micro-nutrients.

14. Water development, on-farm water management and irrigation policy activities, as a follow-up to the Lomé consultation on irrigation development, were welcomed and the Committee appreciated the high standard of publications. The Committee encouraged member countries cooperating with FAO to plan irrigation schemes better in order to avoid waterlogging and salinity problems and stressed the need for continued efforts in soil and water conservation. It supported the efforts made towards the development of national resource conservation strategies.

#### 2.1.2 Crops

15. The Committee recognized the importance of interdisciplinary activities undertaken within the crop programme related to such areas as technology development, roots, tubers, plantains and agro-forestry and reiterated its support for these technical areas. It appreciated the assistance provided under the genetic resources, crop improvement and management, seeds and crop protection sub-programmes.

16. The Committee welcomed the efforts made to assist member countries in their production of staple foods. It noted with satisfaction the increased attention given to the transfer of technology with regard to food legumes, cereals, roots and tubers, rice, fruits and vegetables, as well as fibre crops. It appreciated the

activities to develop mushroom cultivation in Asian countries and recommended the expansion of such activities in Africa.

17. The Committee emphasized the growing importance of the Plant Protection Programme. It supported the emphasis given to an integrated pest management approach, in particular with regard to locusts, rodents, armyworm, larger grain borer and cassava mealy bug, all of which are destructive in agriculture, mainly in Africa. It appreciated the efforts to promote the control of the indiscriminate application of pesticides.

18. The Committee stressed the important role of the Emergency Centre for Locust Operations. The ECLO future strategy should be based on combatting breeding grounds. The initiative taken for a coordinated international programme to strengthen long-term competence in pest management in Africa was welcomed by the Committee. It also recommended implementation of the preventive measures foreseen in the various regional and international plans.

19. The Committee recognized the importance of assisting member countries to develop appropriate agricultural mechanization strategies and also the concept of village technology development.

20. The Committee commended the contribution of the prevention of Food Losses Programme (PFL) at national level to increase food supplies by reducing food loss in both staple and perishable food products.

21. The Committee noted FAO's initiative in developing the technology to produce bread from 100 percent indigenous flours. It also noted the earlier experience with composite flours whose use had been limited by economic considerations.

#### 2.1.3 Livestock

22. The Committee regretted the effects of the decrease in resources allocated to livestock and recommended the establishment of a better balance, bearing in mind the importance of the livestock sector in improving the incomes of small-scale farmers.

23. The Committee commended FAO for the initiative taken on biotechnology in the livestock sector in developing countries, in particular the support for the establishment of network activities within the TCDC concept. The Committee agreed that the new biotechnological methods could make a valuable contribution to furthering livestock production through its impact on animal breeding and disease control. In addition, its application in the preservation of animal genetic resources was considered of major importance.

24. The Committee agreed that animal diseases remain of major concern and it urged FAO to continue the timely action on emergency diseases, in particular on the appearance of the American screwworm fly in North Africa, as well as on other animal diseases with an economic impact. The Committee endorsed the extensive activities on the control of foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, trypanosomiasis, ticks and tick-borne diseases.

#### 2.1.4 Research and Technology Development

25. The Committee emphasized the importance of developing and strengthening research infrastructure in developing countries. It recognized the role of research networks such as ESCORENA and welcomed the training and technology transfer activities. The Committee appreciated the increasing cooperation with the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and requested further expansion of this cooperation in the future.

26. The Committee recognized the increased importance of remote sensing techniques in monitoring systems for food security and locust control. It appreciated the extra-budgetary support which supplemented the regular programme remote sensing activities in environmental monitoring, training and pilot action studies carried

out during 1986-88. The Committee supported a continuation of emphasis on development of remote sensing applications in the future.

27. The Committee emphasized the importance of environmental concerns related to sustainable agricultural development. It supported the diverse activities undertaken in relation to the environment which included biological diversity, integrated pest management and food contamination. The Committee welcomed the interdisciplinary approach and interdepartmental cooperation in carrying out environmental activities and the expanding collaboration with UN and non-UN organizations in this area. The Committee appreciated the achievements made during 1986-88 and requested that priority continue to be given to environmental subjects in the future.

#### 2.1.5 Rural Development

28. The Committee supported the activities aimed at providing assistance to member governments through WCARRD Interagency Missions on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, as well as follow-up activities.

29. The Committee noted with satisfaction FAO's assistance, despite limited available resources, in improving agricultural education. It stressed the need to continue assistance to developing countries to improve training activities and strengthen extension services.

30. The Committee supported activities regarding agrarian reform and land settlement, assistance in enhancing employment opportunities for rural populations, training for management of agricultural cooperatives and encouraging rural development institutions and structures.

31. The Committee expressed regret about the impact of the overall resource constraint on the activities related to women in development, and hoped that more resources would be made available to this activity in the framework of FAO Council Resolution 1/94. The Committee commended work initiated on gender issues in planning, monitoring and evaluation of different rural development projects and the models for staff training in "women in development". The Committee urged the Secretariat to include a separate item on the agenda of the 11th Session of the Committee on Agriculture to discuss the issue of women in development. The development of field activities with special focus on rural women was also supported.

32. In underlining that the quantity and quality of input supply is a major constraint in agricultural development, the Committee noted that FAO's planned programme of assistance to member countries in marketing and input supply had suffered from insufficient resources.

#### 2.1.6 Nutrition

33. The Committee appreciated the ongoing efforts in the field of nutrition with particular reference to the promotion of roots and tubers and their role in household food security.

34. The Committee stressed the importance of the work of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme in harmonizing national and international food regulations, facilitating food trade and protecting the consumer. It supported the efforts taken to strengthen the relationship between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and GATT to remove non-tariff barriers to trade.

35. The Committee appreciated the importance of trade in fresh fruits and vegetables for developing countries and commended the recent creation of the Codex Committee on Fresh Tropical Fruits and Vegetables.

36. The Committee recognized the importance of controlling the quality and safety of food products, and commended FAO's assistance to member countries in this field. In this regard, the Committee expressed concern about the environmental

contamination of foods and emphasized that FAO should strengthen its efforts in assisting member countries in the control and monitoring of the contaminants with particular reference to pesticide residues and radionuclides.

#### 2.1.7 Food and Agricultural Information and Analysis

37. The Committee endorsed the continued high priority accorded to the work of the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS), which it considered one of FAO's most important activities. The Committee stressed the valuable role which the System had continued to play in monitoring the crop and food supply prospects at national, regional and global levels and alerting the international community whenever food supplies were threatened.

38. The Committee welcomed that AGROSTAT was being developed into the World Agricultural Information Centre (WAICENT) and noted that experimental on-line access was already available to some users. Nevertheless, it noted that as many countries still did not have on-line access facilities, there was the need to continue to produce printed publications and other traditional means of data dissemination.

39. The Committee appreciated the regular assessments of the global and regional food and agricultural situation as well as those of the market situation for agricultural commodities and the analysis of related problems in international trade. The Committee therefore welcomed the efforts made to maintain the core situation and outlook documents including the State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) and the Commodity Review and Outlook (CRO), despite the reduction in the publication programme imposed by the financial constraints. It further welcomed the introduction of such innovations as the co-publishing of FAO documents to make them available to a wider public at minimum cost, as had been recently done with the updated version of Agriculture: Toward 2000 (AT 2000).

#### 2.1.8 Food and Agricultural Policy

40. The Committee stressed the important role that FAO should play in helping member countries conduct agricultural analyses and sector reviews, formulate agricultural strategies, policies and plans, assist in their implementation, and in providing training in policy analysis. It expressed appreciation for this work and urged that it be given high priority.

41. The Committee appreciated the policy advisory services provided through the regional studies that had been completed during the period under review. The studies had represented major interdisciplinary efforts to provide a comprehensive framework for sectoral strategy and policy formulation. In particular, it noted African Agriculture, the Next 25 Years, Potentials for Agricultural and Rural Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and European Agriculture: Policy Issues and Options to 2000, to which all eight agricultural programmes had made substantial contributions, as well as the support given by FAO to initiatives in Africa such as the United Nations Programme of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-90 (UN-PAAERD), both in its preparation and monitoring.

42. The Committee emphasized the harmful impact of protectionism on agricultural trade. It stressed the continuing need to improve access to markets for the commodity exports of developing countries and supported activities aimed at expanding trade among them. The Committee encouraged FAO to continue its assistance to developing countries in commodity policy formulation.

43. The Committee welcomed the information that, in response to requests made at the Ninth Session of COAG and in other FAO Governing Bodies, a new study had been prepared on the economic significance of tobacco, a condensed version of which would be presented to the forthcoming Fifty-seventh Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP) in June 1989. It was noted that the CCP document would also incorporate projections of supply and demand to the year 2000 as well as an analysis of the socio-economic consequences of tobacco consumption, the elements for which had been contributed by WHO.

44. The Committee welcomed the new orientation of the Food Security Assistance Scheme (FSAS) which has the objective of developing comprehensive national food security programmes focusing on the medium and long-term requirements of developing countries. It noted with satisfaction the steps taken towards the coordination of activities. The Committee particularly supported the need for donor and recipient countries to work within the broader concept of food security, which links production requirements, stability in the flow of food supplies and access to food by the poor.

45. The Tropical Forestry Action Plan was brought to the attention of the Committee. This Plan was initiated at the request of the Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics and was endorsed by the 23rd Session of the FAO Conference. The Committee welcomed FAO's efforts in launching the Plan as a new coordinated effort to stem the destruction of tropical forests. The Tropical Forestry Action Plan stressed that solutions to tropical deforestation cannot be confined to forestry alone but rely as much on intensified agriculture on suitable lands as on effective forest conservation and management. Wise land use policies should encourage complementarity between agriculture and forestry and release the pressure on remaining forests. The Plan called for increased cooperation from agriculture and livestock sectors. It provided a framework for a concerted approach involving government departments, local organizations and development agencies.

#### Summary Programme of Work and Budget 1990-91

##### General

46. The Committee discussed Agenda Item 4 on the basis of the document COAG/89/4 "Summary Programme of Work and Budget 1990-91", which provided an extract from the Director-General's proposed Summary Programme of Work and Budget, to be submitted to the Ninety-fifth Session of the Council in June 1989, through the Programme and Finance Committees. The Committee recalled that its views would be available to the Council and noted with satisfaction that its conclusions would be taken into account in formulating the full Programme of Work and Budget.

47. The Committee expressed appreciation of the approach adopted by the Director-General and the overall view of the programme considerations which had guided the formulation of the budgetary proposals for 1990-91 and the specific priorities, programme changes and proposals for Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture. Some delegations stated that they would have further comments pending consideration of the Summary Programme of Work and Budget as a whole, and in some cases the results of the FAO review.

48. The Committee welcomed the improvements in the format and presentation of the document which for the first time showed net changes down to programme element level. It recognized that there was increased information, albeit succinct, on new approaches, new concerns and ways to make room for different means of action, and that the full Programme of Work and Budget document would, as usual, provide additional information. Some delegations felt that future programme documents should be changed to allow the proposals of the next biennium to be considered in the light of medium-term plans. The Secretariat pointed out to the Committee that the medium-term objectives formed part of the full Programme of Work and Budget as decided by the Council and Conference.

49. Recalling its discussion on the implementation of the Programme of Work 1986-88, the Committee fully supported the policy of confirming the allocation of additional financial resources to the technical and economic programmes of FAO, especially since the latter had suffered from repeated cuts in two biennia due to cash flow problems. Some delegations pointed out that the proposed increase in the Major Programme Agriculture would need to be considered in the light of the Director General's overall budget proposals for all programmes that would be examined by the Council and Conference. With regard to the approach, the Committee endorsed the main priority areas affecting more particularly Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture for



which increased allocations had been proposed: sustainable development, crop/weather monitoring, biotechnology, crop protection, agricultural data development, policy advice, and women in development. The Committee noted that the listing did not confer an order of priority. Some delegations felt that the priority areas could have been reflected more clearly in the budget proposals, and underlined the need for greater concentration of activities and the advantages of an approach through special action programmes. The substantive comments expressed on these priorities are reflected in the following sections, in connection with the programmes most concerned.

50. The Committee noted that attention to these selective priorities was proposed to be accommodated within a limited net increase of about 1.3 percent. Most members considered that the likely demands on FAO support and services and the need to restore its capacity to respond would have warranted a much higher net increase. A few members stated that the budget level for the 1990-91 biennium should comply with the principle of real zero growth.

51. Many members also recalled the importance they attached to seeing an adequate provision for the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) included in the next Programme of Work and Budget. The role and contribution of Regional Offices to meeting FAO's objectives under Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture was also underlined in many interventions. Some delegations felt that there was a need for a further discussion and clarification of the division of work between the regional offices and country offices.

52. The Committee regretted that one of FAO's essential roles, that of training, had had to be curtailed in the past biennium. It hoped that this situation would be redressed in 1990/91. Similarly, the Committee welcomed the greater degree of collaboration which now exists with relevant international, regional and national organizations and agencies, which makes most efficient use of scarce resources. Further extension of such collaboration was encouraged.

53. The Committee agreed that the proposals under Major Programme 2.1 Agriculture, represented a feasible and satisfactory mix of activities, in consonance with the request of Member Nations, as expressed in the Conference, the Council, the Regional Conferences and other inter-governmental fora. It considered that they provided an acceptable basis for the preparation of the full FWB for consideration by the 25th Session of the FAO Conference.

#### 2.1.1 Natural Resources

54. The Committee endorsed the priority and emphasis accorded to the utilization and conservation of natural resources.

55. Appreciating that land resources are the physical base for all agricultural production and recognizing the current pressures on land, the Committee endorsed activities and Agro-ecological Zones (AEZ) training approaches for the more rational and productive use of land and water resources on a degradation-free and sustainable basis.

56. The Committee recognized the important role of farm management and production economics in the analysis and development of sustainable farming systems. It welcomed the emphasis now being given to participative planning methodologies and noted the introduction of a minor activity to improve management techniques for medium/large-scale farms as well as for emergent farmers on increasingly commercialized holdings.

57. The Committee stressed the importance of fertilizer activities for all countries, but the markedly reduced level of activities of the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme (IFS) was noted with regret.

58. The importance of irrigation development, as a prerequisite to increased production in many areas, was recognized, and the Committee noted with satisfaction the activities planned to assist governments evaluate the needs for improving and

rehabilitating existing irrigation schemes. At the same time, some delegations stressed the importance of waterlogging and salinity. The possibility of including all these activities into the work of the Regional Offices was emphasized.

59. Keeping in view the importance of environmental concerns, the Committee supported the priority accorded to "sustaining resource potentials" and the need to give FAO's many activities on sustainability also a special focus and visibility. The creation of the new sub-programme met this need, but should not detract from the importance of sustainability issues permeating activities of all sub-programmes. A plea was made for extra-budgetary funding for this sub-programme.

60. In connection with sustainable development, many members stressed that attention to sustainability should not conflict with overall development objectives and that the sovereignty of states should be respected. They also stressed that poverty alleviation was a prerequisite to sustainable development. The need for mobilizing funds to offset the additional costs in developing countries arising from the integration of environmental concerns in the development process was emphasized. Similarly, the great impact of foreign debt on the priorities, among which developing countries have to choose, was emphasized.

#### 2.1.2 Crops

61. The Committee endorsed the crops programme and noted that there is a continuous need to develop crop production and protection techniques that optimize crop yields under the different agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions. The proposed increased allocations also for biotechnology, aiming at the strengthening of crop improvement, and crop protection were welcomed.

62. The Committee recognized the importance of plant genetic resources and seed. Most members appreciated the proposed increase of resources within the Secretariat of the Commission on Plant Genetic Resources for the promotion of activities under the aegis of the international undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources. A few members questioned the rationale of shifting resources from important sub-programme elements to the Commission on Plant Genetic Resources. The Committee regretted the reduction of US\$148 000 made in the overall sub-programme 2.1.2.1 which it felt should be strengthened.

63. Noting the developments regarding FAO's cooperation with the International Board of Plant Genetic Resources, the Committee was informed that additional provision would be considered in this regard in the full Programme of Work and Budget.

64. The Committee endorsed the Crop Improvement and Management Programme, aiming at identifying improved technologies in crop production for the benefit of the farmers. It gave its support to the proposed creation of the two new elements concerning biotechnology in plant production, and policies for sustainable production systems. It strongly recommended the need for activities oriented toward biotechnology aiming at increasing agricultural production in developing countries and decreasing the technological gap between developed and developing countries.

65. The Committee recognized the fundamental importance of seeds and noted with interest the proposed creation of the new programme element: Improved On-farm Seed Production, which will assist in developing seed production quality control and distribution systems for farmers who have limited or no access to quality seed of improved varieties.

66. The Committee noted that continued assistance in crop protection will be provided for the improvement of the control of weeds, insect pests, plant diseases, rodents and the reduction of post-harvest losses, as will also assistance to member countries for the Implementation of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides. It recognized the fundamental importance of the role of FAO in the locust campaign (ECLC) and insisted on the need for the strengthening of national plant protection services.

67. The Committee endorsed the change in approach to agricultural engineering questions. The emphasis will now lie in a better flow of engineering information; enhancing FAO's position as the international focal point for agricultural engineering; improving the appropriate selection of equipment, promoting multi-farm use of machinery; and redressing the lack of skilled manpower to manage, operate and maintain agricultural engineering inputs on a sustained basis.

68. The Committee reiterated the high priority previously given to the Special Action Programme for the Prevention of Food Losses (PFL). This Programme should continue its work of identifying and formulating much needed field projects, and its training programmes at national and regional level.

69. The Committee noted the restructuring of the food and agricultural industries work to make room for some new elements. It endorsed the continuing emphasis on food processing and handling which will focus on new marketable and convenience food products from traditional crops, thus also increasing employment opportunities; on new management techniques for apiculture, and new value-added applications for natural fibres including sericulture. It supported process biotechnology including fermentation technologies, biochemical production and residue technologies, and noted the introduction of small-scale processing of medicinal plants, spices and aromatics, and of industrial applications such as starch and glue manufacture. It was emphasized that cooperation with UNIDO and ILO in the rural industry sector should be increased.

#### 2.1.3 Livestock

70. The Committee endorsed the priorities for livestock and agreed with the activities planned for the Programme in the Summary Programme of Work and Budget for 1990/91. It stressed the importance of the work on feed resources and animal health including vaccine production. The Committee supported the action taken on the introduction and development of new biotechnological methods in animal production and health in developing countries through the TCDC approach.

71. The Committee agreed to the importance of better utilization of feed resources in view of their scarcity in many developing countries. It recognized the important role of forage seed in the development of fodder production and noted with interest the emphasis placed on this subject. It also endorsed the training activities which will be implemented for arid and semi-arid areas.

72. The Committee urged the continuation and intensification of the on-going activities on the control of animal diseases including the strengthening of veterinary services, education and the economics of disease control. It further urged that action on emergency diseases such as those related to rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease should be met with immediate response from FAO.

73. The Committee commended FAO for the prompt action taken in relation to the recent appearance of the American screwworm fly in North Africa. The Committee requested FAO to prepare adequate action plans as soon as possible and to keep all interested countries and organizations informed about further developments. It noted that activities related to the eradication of this devastating pest would require additional Regular Programme and extra-budgetary resources and that, in general, additional resources should be provided for animal disease control activities.

74. The Committee concurred with the initiative proposed for the control of non-infectious chronic diseases. The Committee recommended that the support for the control of ticks and tick-borne diseases, including the eradication of the Tropical Bont Tick from the Caribbean and trypanosomiasis control should be pursued. It also recommended that the transfer through networks of new biotechnological methods for the diagnosis of animal diseases and vaccine production should be further promoted.

75. The Committee supported the actions FAO is taking on the application of biotechnology in animal breeding and genetics, including embryo transfer.

76. The Committee supported the promotion of integrated dairy development and the introduction of improved technologies for the production of indigenous dairy products.

77. The Committee endorsed the proposed work on the formulation and demonstration of effective strategies and integrated programmes for the advancement of low cost, sustainable livestock production systems. It agreed in particular that small ruminants and other small animals would be given attention through support for improvement of indigenous breeds as this would also promote the integration of women in rural development.

#### 2.1.4 Research and Technology Development

78. The Committee supported the increased resources proposed for programme 2.1.4 and considered these to be essential for carrying out the increased work foreseen related to research and technology development.

79. The Committee recognized the important contribution of research and technology and the emphasis placed by FAO to increase and sustain agricultural production. It agreed to the proposed changes in sub-programme 2.1.4.1 on research development which included increased resources for research policy and planning, technology assessment and transfer, and international agricultural research support.

80. The Committee supported the changes proposed in Sub-Programme 2.1.4.2 for Agricultural Applications of Isotopes and Biotechnology. It welcomed the introduction of a new programme element on agricultural applications of molecular biology which it considered to be an important part of FAO's priority being given to biotechnology. Concerning the recent American screwworm infestation in North Africa, the Committee noted the importance of the Sterile Insect Technique for final eradication of this pest.

81. The Committee agreed with the priority accorded to Sub-Programme 2.1.4.3 AGRIS/CARIS and noted with satisfaction that the proposed increase will be devoted to the strengthening of participating centres, the processing of relevant information provided by them and to improving the output and services made available to users in member countries.

82. The Committee agreed with the priority to be given to crop/weather monitoring. It noted the close cooperation between WMO and FAO. It welcomed the strengthening of work in this area which included increased resources for satellite monitoring of environmental conditions and the transfer of the agrometeorology group from the AGP Division to the AGR Division. It appreciated that these changes in sub-programme 2.1.4.4 would rationalize and enhance services provided in these areas to the benefit of GIEWS, ECLO and technical support activities to member countries. It appreciated that this work would continue to benefit from trust fund support from a number of donors.

83. The Committee identified a number of areas requiring increased attention including in-house and external training on environmental issues related to agricultural and rural development particularly environmental impact assessment of development projects; sustainable development of dryland areas; environmental aspects of biotechnology and issues of poverty, land tenure and population pressures in relation to environment and sustainable development. The Committee supported the programme changes proposed for sub-programme 2.1.4.5 on environment and energy, which would emphasize strengthening policy guidance and assistance in the integration of environmental policies and concerns into the development process and provision of advisory services.

#### 2.1.5 Rural Development

84. The Committee endorsed the orientation of the programme which aimed at alleviating rural poverty, and achieving balanced socio-economic development. The emphasis on the improvement of the quality of human resources, including the amelioration of socio-economic and institutional conditions and the preservation,

efficient use and equitable access to natural resources, was also supported by the Committee.

85. The Committee supported the focus on strategies and policies for agricultural education and training and the assistance to member countries for training of manpower for designing and implementing rural development programmes particularly for the benefit of women, youth and small farmers. The Committee stressed the need to upgrade the capabilities of trainers, to modernize facilities and to improve materials.

86. The Committee supported activities related to the promotion of the participation of beneficiaries, to the organization and management of institutions and to increasing employment opportunities for rural people.

87. The Committee endorsed the orientation towards the integration of women's concerns in all technical areas in line with the Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development. It noted the planned activities for training, the promotion of appropriate technologies for women farmers, the preparation of case studies and a data base, and the upgrading of women's agricultural and managerial skills.

88. The Committee stressed the importance of marketing services especially for the small farmer. It welcomed the focus on improved market extension services and felt that sufficient resources had not been allocated to this activity. It supported FAO's assistance to member countries in reviewing their food marketing policies particularly in the context of structural adjustment programmes.

89. The Committee concurred with the broadening of emphasis in the credit programme which will re-orient traditional agricultural lending institutions, enabling them to provide a wider range of customer services. It noted that assistance will be given on policy aspects and structural arrangements in rural finance for the mobilization of local financial resources.

#### 2.1.6 Nutrition

90. The Committee agreed with the programme priorities, particularly the strengthening of national food control systems and the activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the provision of nutrition policy advice and the role of traditional food crops in promoting nutrition.

91. The Committee supported the undertaking of work in preparation of the Sixth World Food Survey with a view to providing a comprehensive measurement and analysis of the nutritional situation of developing countries, its causes and consequences.

92. The Committee fully supported the work carried out under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme in preparing food standards and codes of practice and noted their relevance for trade negotiations under GATT. It stressed the importance of the work carried out by the Regional Codex Coordinating Committees.

93. The Committee commended FAO's work in establishing regional training networks for food control personnel and suggested that action be taken to set up such a network in Latin America and the Caribbean with emphasis on the control of food safety for imports and exports. Training activities in food control in respect of food contamination, including environmental contaminants were strongly encouraged.

94. The Committee urged that increased technical assistance be provided to member countries to strengthen national food control systems to ensure that foods exported meet the requirements of importing countries and that foods that are imported are safe and of good quality.

95. The Committee supported the provision of technical assistance for the formulation of national food and nutrition policies and stressed the need for training local personnel, especially in Africa, through sub-regional centres.

96. The Committee supported FAO's work on traditional food crops as an important element of programmes for nutrition improvement and food security. It stressed the importance of encouraging production of traditional food crops as a means of meeting food demand.

#### 2.1.7 Food and Agricultural Information and Analysis

97. The Committee emphasized the key importance of the statistical and information work of the Organization. It stressed the usefulness of the regular assessments at global and regional levels in the State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA), and the related policy analysis work.

98. The Committee supported the priority area of agricultural data development as a basic function of FAO and endorsed the plans to develop a World Agricultural Information Centre (WAICENT). This would reinforce FAO's role in an area where it had clear comparative advantage and Member Nations had much to benefit from WAICENT.

99. The Committee underlined the importance of the development of statistics and related services in developing countries, especially crop statistics in Africa. It urged that more assistance be given to countries in the undertaking of agricultural censuses. A few delegations supported the preparation of periodic country briefs.

100. The Committee emphasized that one of the core elements of FAO's analytical work was to continue to provide objective assessments of agricultural commodity and trade developments, particularly for low-income countries heavily dependent on agricultural exports which did not possess national commodity intelligence services.

101. The Committee supported the work of the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS). It emphasized the importance of the GIEWS in facilitating the response of donors and the governments of vulnerable countries to emerging food supply difficulties. It appreciated the progress made in strengthening the System's collection, analysis and dissemination of information and recognized the need for further strengthening of the System as demands upon it from governments and international agencies continued to increase.

#### 2.1.8 Food and Agricultural Policy

102. The Committee strongly endorsed the high priority given under this programme to national food security and sectoral policy analysis and planning, the global and regional studies and commodity and trade work. As this programme was central to FAO's policy advisory function, it expressed concern over the proposed reduction in resources for the programme as a whole and urged that additional resources be provided.

103. The Committee strongly supported the priority proposed for providing analytical activities and guidance to member countries, especially in connection with structural adjustment processes, and particularly in the context of the adverse consequences experienced in many developing countries in the wake of these processes. It recognized that FAO's policy advice would be in response to specific country requests. It underlined the importance of training in policy analysis and of cooperating with other international organizations when providing policy advice to member countries.

104. The Committee supported the expanded mandate of the Food Security Assistance Scheme, under which comprehensive national food security programmes would be prepared and executed upon request of developing countries, covering the elements of the broadened concept of food security.

105. The Committee agreed on the need for FAO to maintain an effective programme of trade policy analysis and intergovernmental consultations in order to help improve the international trading environment. It supported FAO studies of possible new approaches to agricultural policy reform and the technical support which was being provided by FAO to GATT and to the participants in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

106. The Committee stressed the importance of FAO's regional policy and perspective studies and expressed its appreciation for the regional policy studies recently completed. The Committee requested that consideration be given to the preparation of a similar study for the Asia and Pacific region in 1990-91.

#### FOOD AND NUTRITION

##### Urbanization, Food Consumption Patterns and Nutrition

107. The Committee considered the subject of "Urbanization, Food Consumption Patterns and Nutrition" on the basis of document COAG/89/5 which examined the nature and range of implications of the changing food consumption patterns associated with the rapid process of urbanization, and reviewed the activities initiated to monitor and address specific aspects of food consumption behaviour and family nutrition.

108. The Committee commended the quality of the document which presented a useful overview of the problems of urban malnutrition in developing countries and possible lines of remedial action.

109. The Committee noted that in many countries the majority of the undernourished population was in rural areas and that this problem needed to continue to receive particular attention. It recognized that while the problem of rural malnutrition had been discussed by the Committee at its previous sessions, it was useful to consider also the subject of urban malnutrition which was growing rapidly and which required specific measures to alleviate it.

110. The Committee agreed that the consideration of food consumption behaviour and nutritional problems in urban areas should take into account the linkages with several other key areas of FAO's interest, such as ensuring adequate food production, promoting rural development, and developing marketing, processing and the related infrastructure.

111. The Committee emphasized the important role of effective rural development policies, appropriate price policies, as well as suitable food and nutrition policies for improving nutrition in both urban and rural areas. It stressed that the lack of improvements in conditions in rural areas accelerated migration to urban areas, thereby creating intensive urbanization, which would have serious consequences. It therefore agreed that the improvement of conditions in rural areas would help reduce this migration and thus help mitigate the nutrition problems also in urban areas.

112. The Committee supported the need for short-term interventions in the areas of food quality and safety, nutrition education and interventions and nutrition surveillance activities. It also supported the role that FAO can play in these areas in cooperation with other concerned UN agencies, particularly WHO and UNICEF.

113. The Committee noted the economic, social, and nutritional importance of street foods and supported the efforts made for training and institution building with particular relevance to street foods in urban areas, with a view to providing consumer protection and improving food handling practices. In this regard, the Committee stressed the need for the preparation of suitable training materials for food vendors in the informal sector. A number of delegates cautioned against excessive government regulation of this informal sector activity which might have potentially adverse effects on employment and incomes of the poor, especially women. Others felt that the requisite degree of government regulation was necessary to protect health and hygiene concerns.

114. The Committee stressed the important contribution of agriculture, including family gardens, in urban and peri-urban areas in improving the supply of local foods to urban households, as well as in providing employment, especially for women.

115. The Committee agreed that in order to achieve greater food self-reliance, the production and consumption of traditional, nutritious local staples should be encouraged. It also stressed the need to promote the processing of such foods into convenience foods with a view to increasing their consumption in urban areas. The Committee urged FAO to consider assisting member countries in developing suitable

technologies for processing, preservation, better marketing and distribution of such foods, including the production of bread from domestically produced staples.

116. The Committee agreed that urban development and the associated demand for better quality prepared foods would encourage the growth of agro-food industries, including in rural areas, thus providing incentives for agricultural development and improved employment opportunities, particularly for women. The Committee noted some other positive features of urban development such as easier access to health and education facilities. However, it also noted the negative effects of urbanization, in particular on infant/child feeding practices in poor shanty environments which were a major factor in urban childhood malnutrition.

117. The Committee supported the overall importance of nutrition education to urban consumers and stressed that FAO should consider assisting member countries in developing nutrition education programmes through the innovative and appropriate use of the mass media, particularly for increasing the awareness of the low income consumer concerning the nutritional value of different food items. The Committee also noted the role of targetted subsidies and feeding programmes, including school feeding programmes, as well as self-targetting by subsidizing commodities consumed by the poor and food stamps, as suitable ways for improving access to food by vulnerable urban communities.

118. The Committee emphasized the importance of FAO's support for country level food and nutrition surveillance activities. In this regard, the Committee noted the importance of the training of local personnel, and the strengthening of local institutions in the use of surveillance data for development planning. The Committee also stressed the value of developing surveillance data at sub-national and urban levels for use in programme and project development. The Committee supported FAO's role in collaboration with other UN agencies in monitoring the nutritional impact of development policies. Several delegates also referred to the negative impact of structural adjustment programmes on nutrition, including in urban areas, and emphasized the need for FAO to monitor these developments.

119. The Committee agreed that FAO should also consider undertaking further work in several other areas such as: the potential for processing of indigenous foods, contribution of street foods to employment, implementing intervention programmes and household expenditure surveys. In this connection, the Committee requested that the dimension of urban malnutrition should be also included in the Sixth World Food Survey.

120. The Committee agreed that, in general, the objective of national agricultural development strategies should be aimed at achieving food self-reliance. In this connection it stressed the important role of a favourable international economic environment including, inter alia, improving access to markets, especially for the products exported by developing countries.

#### SELECTED DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

##### Preservation of Animal Genetic Resources

121. This subject was presented as a selected development issue and the discussion was based on document COAG/89/6 "Preservation of Animal Genetic Resources" which examined the background, analysed the current position and presented proposals for an enlarged global strategy. In appraising the background, the paper reviewed the activities initiated by FAO in recent years which have been components of the FAO Regular Programme of Work and Budget, supported by UNEP funding. The paper indicated that the proposed global strategy would require an enlarged programme.

122. The Committee commended the quality of the paper and its timeliness. It confirmed its view that the topic is of growing importance at national, regional and global levels and recognized that the topic merits the development of an international strategy, programme and agreement in order to ensure the availability of animal genetic resources for present and especially to future generations.

123. The Committee recognized that growing pressures upon the world's animal genetic resources, arising mainly from short-term economic interests, are threatening and



depleting animal genetic variation. Consequently, in the interests of economics, science and human heritage, a programme of preservation and improved use is fully justified. The Committee further recognized that to be effective such a programme should have international acceptance and support.

124. The Committee recognized that the current use of animal genetic resources is closely linked with the need for preservation for possible future use. However, it is difficult to anticipate the precise economic value of such preserved resources in the more distant future. The Committee affirmed its view that the present generation has a responsibility for ensuring that future generations are not denied access to animal genetic resources through either neglect or wilful misuse of this human heritage.

125. The Committee expressed its view that although it is often impossible to justify the preservation of animal genetic resources in quantified economic terms, preservation programmes should be developed on the concept of availability if and when required.

126. The Committee urged FAO to expand the programme of animal genetic resource preservation and improved use as a matter of urgency, in order to stem the current loss of indigenous breeds of animals. The Committee recognized that this situation is becoming critical especially in some developing countries.

127. The Committee recognized the lack of information on the status of many animal genetic populations in some developing countries and urged FAO to devote new activities and technical support for accurate surveys, genetic classifications and risk status assessment as well as censuses. The Committee also strongly urged FAO to develop a World Watch List of endangered animal breeds as a support mechanism and early warning for member countries and encouraged FAO to update and publish this list regularly.

128. The Committee recognized that it would be neither feasible nor responsible to await completion of genetic characterizations for all indigenous animal breeds, especially in developing countries, before taking up preservation initiatives without running the risk of genetic resources being endangered and possibly lost. The Committee therefore recommended that, due to the accelerating threat to indigenous breeds, with unique genetic qualities, especially those which enable animals to live and produce in hostile environments, FAO should develop documentation and preservation programmes concurrently.

129. The Committee affirmed its support for the technical methodology already developed by FAO for the preservation of animal genetic resources and recognized that there is now an urgent need to apply these proven techniques on a global scale so that they may be available to all countries who wish to use them. In this regard the Committee affirmed its view that the organization of animal genetic gene banks and data banks is often not feasible on a national basis and supported FAO's initiatives to establish methodologies suitable for regional and global use. The Committee also supported the wish of those countries with national programmes to link them to the global programme.

130. The Committee commended FAO for the development of Animal Descriptors and for the establishment of the EAAP/FAO Global Animal Genetic Data Bank. The Committee emphasized the importance of training, technical and financial support to enable all developing countries to document their indigenous animal breeds, to enter them into the global system and to be encouraged to access this information for decision-making.

131. The Committee supported the approach of FAO in placing primary emphasis on the cryogenic storage of germplasm.

132. The Committee recommended that FAO should develop appropriate methodologies for the establishment of live animal reserves for those countries and in those circumstances where the system is appropriate. The Committee recognized the importance of such in situ preservation being integrated with the preservation of plant genetic resources in natural habitats and supported the joint approach.

133. The Committee suggested that FAO should pay particular attention to certain topics in the development of the global programme. Some members felt these were animal health and disease control in the movement and storage of germplasm and animals preserved in situ; relationships with wild life genetic resources; the possibility of mobile teams to provide technical services to developing countries in the identification of endangered breeds and the collection of germplasm; the need for standards for evaluating genetic merit in donor animals; the question of price and payment for preserved semen and matters of ownership/trust/access and replenishment of germplasm in regional gene banks; and finally costs of operating programmes especially in developing countries where resources are extremely limited.

134. The Committee encouraged FAO to continue its work in exploring the use of new biotechnology methods applicable to animal genetic resources. In particular, FAO should continue to study new developments concerning the use of DNA as a supplement to the storage of semen, embryos and oocytes.

135. The Committee recognized the close association between domestic animal genetic resources and wildlife due not only to the genetic relationships between domestic species and their wild ancestors but also because of the growing practice of farming wild species for food and fibre production. The Committee therefore urged FAO to study more closely the possibilities of joint programmes and cooperation with other bodies whose prime interest lies in wildlife.

136. The Committee urged FAO to develop further the training programmes for developing country nationals to equip them for participation in the Regional Animal Gene Banks and the Global Animal Genetic Data Bank programmes. The Committee emphasized the importance of immediate financial support to avoid a period of inactivity while longer term financial support for a global and genetic resources programme is being developed.

137. The Committee endorsed the priority being given by FAO to the importance of biotechnology in relation to animal genetic resources and recognized the impact which it will have in future upon techniques both for improved use and for preservation of animals.

138. The Committee recognized that animal genetic resources are a part of the larger field of biological diversity and encouraged FAO to continue its close liaison and, where appropriate, its collaboration with other organizations, both inter-governmental and NGOs, which are active in this field, with the aim of developing a unified and comprehensive approach to this subject.

139. The Committee encouraged FAO to continue to work in close contact with other bodies currently involved in the development of animal genetic resources, especially those with representation from developing and developed countries so as to ensure that FAO's global programme is comprehensive and represents the interests of all countries and regions.

140. The Committee approved the proposal that, in addition to the continued development and enlargement of the existing programme, FAO should consider further the many technical, legal, financial and institutional aspects of a global programme for animal genetic resources. The proposal for an Expert Consultation to examine these topics was supported. Furthermore, approval was given for the Working Group of the FAO Commission on Plant Genetic Resources, based on its experience, to study the possibility for FAO to establish a global system of genetic resources, including animal genetic resources. Confidence was expressed that FAO will be able to attract extra-budgetary resources for these important tasks.

#### People's Participation in Agricultural and Rural Development

141. The Committee discussed the item on the basis of document COAG/89/7 "People's Participation in Agricultural and Rural Development", which had been prepared in response to the request made by COAG at its Ninth Session following a proposal made by the Ad Hoc Group of Permanent Representatives of International NGOs Residing in

Rome. The Committee also heard with interest a statement from the representative of the International NGOs Residing in Rome.

142. The Committee recognized that the concept of "people's participation" was susceptible to different interpretations regarding the scope and intensity of people's involvement in decision-making. It generally agreed with the definition of people's participation as an active process in which the participants take initiatives and actions stimulated by their own discussion, as accepted by the UN ACC Task Force on Rural Development.

143. The Committee underlined the emphasis which the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) had placed on promoting people's participation through appropriate national policies aiming at growth and equity. It noted that WCARRD had also agreed that active participation could only be brought about through voluntary, autonomous and democratic organizations genuinely representing rural people's interests and involving primary producers and rural workers, such as farmers' associations, cooperatives and rural workers' organizations.

144. The Committee noted the trends in government policies and programmes relating to people's participation, which, among others, included measures for decentralization of government planning and decision-making so as to favour the participation of rural people's organizations. Some members considered that giving more power to local governments in decision-making would be a more effective way of promoting people's participation. The Committee also noted that many governments had given priority to promoting cooperatives as a main instrument for enhancing people's participation. It recognized, however, that in several cases people's participation had been restrained and weakened due to insufficient allocation of resources to the rural sector, due to the daily engagement in work for agricultural production, and by policies which kept the price of agricultural produce low or raised the cost of inputs and services.

145. The Committee recognized that cooperatives were the largest and most widespread form of people's organizations. They played a significant role in both market and centrally planned economies. The Committee noted that the use of cooperative organizations as a vehicle for implementing government policies might sometimes lead to the loss of the participatory element in these cooperatives.

146. The Committee noted with concern that women's participation in cooperatives in the developing countries was generally low, although the situation varied considerably between regions. Women were even more under-represented at the decision-making level. In certain countries, social conditions and sometimes legislation restricted their full involvement. It noted, however, that in certain types of cooperatives, such as savings and credit unions and dairy cooperatives, women played an important role.

147. The Committee noted with satisfaction the role played by rural workers' organizations in promoting participation among agricultural and other rural workers, who were generally landless and the most disadvantaged. The Committee expressed satisfaction that women's interests had also been the objective of a number of rural workers' organizations which had successfully grouped landless and self-employed female workers. The Committee emphasized the need to remove all barriers to the establishment of agricultural and rural workers' associations. Some members, however, pointed out that problems might arise between wage-earning agricultural workers and the rural self-employed due to the conflicts in their interests.

148. The Committee took note of the important role played by small informal groups of rural people who usually function on the basis of local customs and traditions. It recognized that assistance was needed by these traditional informal groups in order to improve their performance and enhance their development. The Committee stressed the need for collecting information on their constitution and operations.

149. The Committee noted that participation through people's organizations had also been enhanced by promotional NGOs, both national and international. There was

considerable scope for such NGOs to assist in removing political, social and economic bottlenecks. The Committee urged FAO to increase its collaboration with NGOs.

150. The Committee supported the role of FAO in promoting people's participation through its activities and programmes, within the framework of the WCARRD Programme of Action. It noted that people's participation had become an important component of FAO's activities not only within the area of human resources development but also in agriculture, fisheries and forestry activities. The Committee noted that an important objective of the people's participation programme was to develop an operational methodology of participation for incorporation into larger rural development schemes and it encouraged FAO to implement this objective as soon as possible. In this respect, one country pointed out its willingness to finance a study on the role of people's organizations in agriculture and rural development to ensure a data base upon which FAO could increase the amount of work it does in this field.

151. The Committee agreed that a number of issues influenced the rate of progress of people's participation; these were mainly structural, social, organizational and operational. In this context it underlined the importance of the national economic and political structures. The Committee emphasized the need for training of local level planners in programming and allocating resources and services in favour of the disadvantaged populations and to their organizations. The Committee agreed that governments should not exert excessive control over people's organizations but should provide them with the necessary support and guidance. In this context, the need to monitor governmental financial assistance to NGOs was stressed by some delegates. The Committee stressed the importance of availability of resources as an important condition for supporting and maintaining participatory efforts. It urged member countries to provide full public support and to sensitize public opinion, both in rural and urban areas, in order to promote and mobilize people's participation groups.

152. The Committee recognized that certain constraints, such as inertia, dependence, religious and cultural taboos, etc., had created numerous obstacles to the advancement of people's participation. It also stressed that government officials should be more receptive to people's initiatives. The Committee stressed the important role that properly oriented extension services could play in promoting people's participation.

153. The Committee underlined the important role of group organizers, promoters and motivators, who are usually responsible for sensitizing, assisting, training and promoting these groups. It stressed the importance of training local leaders and group promoters or organizers so as to improve their managerial and leadership capacities. It also emphasized the importance of orienting education, including at the primary and secondary level, toward promoting the participation of rural populations.

154. The Committee underlined the importance of credit delivery systems and the group credit approach as a means for providing appropriate financial support to people's organizations. The importance of linking credit with savings, and also with the availability of satisfactory marketing arrangements for the groups' products, were also stressed.

155. In the field of participatory development, the Committee recognized the major operational constraints faced by people's participation projects. It further noted that in developing the participatory approach and consolidating project achievements considerable time was needed. Many members stressed the importance of local people contributing some of their own resources to project activities as this would constitute an important participatory element and would demonstrate the beneficiaries' acceptance and appreciation of project objectives and activities. Some members suggested to FAO that it should contribute to the development of success indicators in participation projects.

156. Several members suggested that special guidelines should be prepared for project formulation and implementation for greater involvement of people in project operations. Some other members cautioned that such guidelines might, in certain cases, increase administrative problems and work against participation.

157. The Committee generally agreed with the recommendations, which spell out proposals for action by Member Governments and FAO, as put forward in paragraphs 70 and 71 of the document. It was underlined that with these recommendations a Plan of Action should be developed to be discussed by the FAO Council and Conference, in due course, and in this connection, the Committee took note with satisfaction of the offer made to contribute extra-budgetary funds for the preparation of such a plan of action. Some members proposed that people's participation should be a major focus in the implementation of the WCARRD Plan of Action and thus become the major theme of the next Progress Report on the WCARRD Programme of Action to be submitted to the FAO Conference in 1991.

Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides - Introduction of the "Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) Clause 1/

158. The Committee discussed the item on the basis of document COAG/89/8 "Report of the Government Consultation on the Principle of Prior Informed Consent (PIC) in the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides". This meeting had been held following a recommendation by the 24th Session of the Conference. A supplementary document (COAG/89/8 Supp.1), prepared by the Secretariat to reflect the conclusions of the second session of the UNEP Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts, held in New York in February 1989, and informal discussions with interested parties provided further necessary background.

159. The Committee took note that the Government Consultation in January 1989 had reviewed and reached general consensus on the text on the operation of the PIC procedure and the Guidelines on the Operation of Prior Informed Consent (PIC), as set out in Appendix IV of COAG/89/8, as well as on the proposed revisions to Articles 2 and 9 of the Code, as described in COAG/89/8 Supp.1. The Committee agreed that documents COAG/89/8 and COAG/89/8 Supp.1 covered all major issues that required attention by COAG.

160. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the considerable amount of work which had been done by the FAO Secretariat since the adoption of Conference Resolution 5/87.

161. The Committee noted the requirements of many countries for technical assistance and training of staff, necessary for a full implementation of the Code and the PIC clause. In this respect the Committee expressed its appreciation for the assistance already provided and additional assistance offered by a number of donor countries.

162. The Committee recognized that the documents were the result of extensive consultations and deliberations, commencing with the Expert Consultation on the Introduction of "Prior Informed Consent" in Article 9 of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, which met in March 1988 in Rome, followed by visits of consultants to 16 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia and the Pacific.

163. It was noted that FAO had attended the two sessions of the UNEP Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on Prior Informed Consent and other Modalities to Supplement the London Guidelines for the Exchange of Information on Chemicals in International Trade, in Dakar from 19 to 23 September 1988 and in New York from 13 to 16 February 1989 respectively.

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1/ COAG/89/8 and COAG/89/8 Supp.1

164. The Committee reaffirmed that the inclusion of PIC in the Code of Conduct would be an essential instrument in the control of exports and imports of pesticides as one of the contributions from agriculture, to safeguard human health and the environment. There was general agreement on the procedures for PIC as indicated in Appendix IV of COAG/89/8 and in COAG/89/8 Supp.1. The Committee stressed the importance of reaching a consensus on the PIC procedure and the amendments to the Code.

165. The Committee stressed that FAO and UNEP should work closely together on the implementation of the PIC procedure. Several delegations emphasized that the implementation should be in a non-duplicative manner, preferably with a single international contact point. Many delegations were of the view that FAO should maintain a lead role in the implementation of PIC concerning pesticides. The Committee noted the consultations between UNEP and FAO in order to reach agreement on relevant clauses of the Guidelines, to distribute the necessary tasks, keeping in mind the respective mandates of the two Organizations, to develop a common data base and to design generally workable cooperative arrangements.

166. The Chairman of the Committee appointed a small Contact Group to assist the Drafting Committee in the preparation of the relevant sections of the COAG report, reaching further consensus wherever possible.

167. The Committee reviewed the proposed Article 9.11.2. The Committee reached consensus on the following text: "take appropriate measures, within their authority and legislative competence, designed to ensure that exports do not occur contrary to the decision of participating importing countries".

168. Two delegations emphasized their interpretation of the relevant provision in the Guidelines that:

"the status quo with respect to importations will continue. This means that the pesticide should not be exported without the explicit consent of the importing country, unless the exporter has evidence that it is a pesticide that is registered in the importing country or is a pesticide the use of which has been allowed by the importing country".

These delegations held the view that in the absence of a response from an importing country, chemicals previously legally imported can continue to be imported.

169. Considerable discussion took place on whether the handling restrictions should be included in the definition of severely restricted. However, the Committee noted that the additional three paragraphs proposed for the Guidelines covered this matter. For clarification, it modified the text of the first paragraph as follows: "Additionally, an FAO Expert Panel will consider the problem of acutely hazardous pesticide formulations, i.e. those that pose particular handling problems, to determine if there exist a need for a list of such products to supplement the pesticides already subject to the PIC procedure".

170. A number of members proposed that the Expert Panel should also review formulations which are included in WHO Class 1B. However, no consensus could be reached on this.

171. Considerable discussions took place regarding the number of notifications required to include a pesticide in the PIC procedure. The majority supported the consensus reached by the Government Consultation.

172. The following further amendments of the Code were proposed and in general accepted by the Committee to bring the Code into line with the Guidelines:

a) expansion of Article 9.8 with the following text, as sub-article 9.8.4:

"FAO will seek advice at regular intervals and review the criteria for inclusion of pesticides in the PIC procedure and

the operation of the PIC scheme and will report to its Member Governments on its findings".

b) amendment of Article 9.8.1, adding the following sentence as underlined:

"9.8. FAO will:

9.8.1.: review notifications of control actions to ensure conformity with definitions in Article 2 of the Code, and will develop the relevant guidance documents".

c) the following definition will be added to Article 2 in paragraph 1 to be amended by inserting one word, and to read:

"Prior Informed Consent (PIC) refers to the principle that international shipment of a pesticide that is banned or severely restricted in order to protect human health or the environment should not proceed without the agreement, where such agreement exists, or contrary to the decision of the designated national authority in the participating importing country".

173. The Committee stressed the necessity of implementing the Conference decision as soon as possible and of starting to monitor the implementation of PIC, providing also the necessary assistance to member countries. The need for progress reports on the implementation was stressed.

174. The committee endorsed for submission to the Council, the text of the Guidelines and the amendments of Articles 2 and 9 as presented in Appendix F to the report.

#### OTHER MATTERS

##### Other Business

175. The Committee noted that, in accordance with Rule IV of its Rules of Procedure, the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, would prepare a provisional agenda for its Eleventh Session.

176. In this connection the Committee was advised that, in line with earlier decisions, one agenda item should deal with a nutritional subject. Normally, not more than three items would be devoted to selected development problems. The final selection of the subjects for the agenda would aim at a satisfactory balance between different areas of work, including the socio-economic aspects of agricultural development. It would also take into account any matters that might be referred to the Committee by the Council or the Conference. In this context the Committee was advised that, in accordance with Council Resolution 1/94, an item concerning the integration of women in agriculture and rural development be included on the Agenda.

177. The following possible topics received support from a number of members:

- Agro-forestry and agro-sylviculture
- Small-scale agriculture
- Rainfed agriculture
- Marketing
- Home gardens and their contribution to nutrition

178. The following additional topics were also suggested during the discussion:

- Agricultural credit for small-scale producers
- Technology advances and their effects on the agriculture sector in developing countries
- Importance of remote sensing for sustainable development
- Population programmes and agricultural development
- Biotechnology

- Crop production and food security
  - Crop and livestock farming in arid areas
179. Questions were raised with regard to the study of the economic significance of tobacco. The Committee was informed that a study on this subject has been completed and a summary version will be presented to the next session of the Committee on Commodity Problems. Some delegates requested that specialized consultative status with FAO be given to the International Tobacco Growers' Association.
180. The Committee on Agriculture was informed of the sudden death of Mr. A.W. von der Pahlen, Chief, Crop and Grassland Service, on Tuesday, 2 May. Mr. von der Pahlen had been in charge of one of the largest technical services in the Organization and made commendable contributions to assisting developing countries in crop production, the integration of forestry and agriculture, and in the application of biotechnology to improving all aspects of plant production.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture, expressed to the Organization and especially to the family of the late Mr. von der Pahlen, its sincere condolences.

Date and Place of Next Session

181. The Committee noted that in accordance with Rule XXXII-3 GRO and Rule II of its Rule of Procedure its Eleventh Session should be held at FAO Headquarters in Rome. As to the timing the Committee recognized the advantage in holding Committee sessions somewhat later in the year, possibly in the second half of April or early in May, and noted that the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, would propose the exact date, taking fully into account the overall meetings schedule of the Organization.



AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen
2. Adoption of the Agenda

REVIEW OF FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

3. Implementation of the Programme of Work 1986-88
4. Summary Programme of Work and Budget 1990-91

FOOD AND NUTRITION

5. Urbanization, Food Consumption Patterns and Nutrition

SELECTED DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

6. Preservation of Animal Genetic Resources
7. People's Participation in Agricultural and Rural Development
8. Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides -  
Introduction of the "Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) Clause

OTHER MATTERS

9. Other Business
10. Date and Place of Next Session
11. Adoption of the Report

LIST OF MEMBER NATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Algeria	Finland	Nicaragua
Angola	France	Nigeria
Argentina	Gabon	Norway
Australia	Germany, Fed. Rep.	Pakistan
Austria	Ghana	Panama
Bangladesh	Greece	Peru
Belgium	Guinea	Philippines
Belize	Honduras	Poland
Bolivia	Hungary	Portugal
Brazil	India	Saudi Arabia
Bulgaria	Indonesia	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Sierra Leone
Burma	Iraq	Spain
Burundi	Ireland	Sri Lanka
Cameroon	Israel	Sudan
Canada	Italy	Suriname
Cape Verde	Japan	Sweden
Chile	Jordan	Switzerland
China	Kenya	Tanzania
Colombia	Korea, Rep.	Thailand
Congo	Lesotho	Tunisia
Costa Rica	Lebanon	Turkey
Cuba	Liberia	Uganda
Cyprus	Libya	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Madagascar	United States of America
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	Malaysia	Uruguay
Denmark	Mali	Venezuela
Ecuador	Malta	Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of
Egypt	Mexico	Yugoslavia
El Salvador	Morocco	Zaire
Ethiopia	Netherlands	Zambia

附录 C

APPENDIX C

ANNEXE C

APENDICE C

قائمة بأسماء المندوبين والمراقبين代表和观察员名单LIST OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS  
LISTE DES DELEGUES ET OBSERVATEURS  
LISTA DE DELEGADOS Y OBSERVADORES

الرئيس

Chairman

Président

Presidente

主席

:

Yousef A. HAMDI (Egypt)

:

يوسف حمدى (مصر)

:

نائب الرئيس الأول

First Vice-Chairman

Premier Vice Président

Primero Vicepresidente

第一副主席

:

Carl THOMSEN (Denmark)

:

نائب الرئيس الثانى

Second Vice-Chairman

Deuxième Vice Président

Segundo Vicepresidente

第二副主席

:

Bahar MUNIP (Malaysia)

:

本委员会成员国  
MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE  
MEMBRES DU COMITE  
MIEMBROS DEL COMITE

ALGERIA - ALGERIE - ARGELIA <u>الجزائر</u>		BANGLADESH (cont.)	
ANGOLA		Alternate	
Représentant		A.K.M. Fazley RABBI	Rome
Pedro AGOSTINHO KANGA	Rome	Acting Permanent Representative to FAO	
Représentant permanent adjoint auprès de la FAO		BELGIUM - BELGIQUE - BELGICA	
ARGENTINA - ARGENTINE		Représentant	
Representante		Antoine SAINTRAINT	Rome
R.E. DALTON	Roma	Ambassadeur auprès de la FAO	
Representante Permanente ante la FAO		Suppléants	
Suplente		Clément CROHAIN	Bruxelles
Victor Eduardo MACHINEA	Roma	Secrétaire général	
Ministro Consejero Agrícola		Ministère de l'agriculture	
Representante Permanente Alterno ante la FAO		J.P. COLEILLE	Bruxelles
Mónica DEREGIBUS (Sra.)	Roma	Ingénieur agronome	
Representante Permanente Alterno ante la FAO		Ministère de l'agriculture	
AUSTRALIA - AUSTRALIE		BELIZE - BELICE	
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Peter FRANKLIN	Rome	Representante	
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO		M. DURÁN ROSALES	Roma
Alternate		Primer Secretario	
Angus MACDONALD	Rome	Representante alterno ante la FAO	
Counsellor		BRAZIL - BRESIL - BRASIL	
Australian Embassy		Representative	
AUSTRIA - AUTRICHE		João Augusto DE MEDICIS	Rome
Representative		Ambassador to FAO	
Hermann REDL	Vienna	Alternates	
Director, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry		Marcelo L. DA SILVA VASCONCELOS	Rome
Alternate		Counsellor, Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO	
Ernst ZIMMERL	Rome	Igor KIPMAN	Rome
Permanent Representative to FAO		Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO	
BANGLADESH		BULGARIA - BULGARIE	
Representative		Représentant	
Waliur RAHMAN	Rome	Yuli MINCHEV	Rome
Ambassador, Permanent Representative to FAO		Permanent Representative to FAO	
		Suppléant	
		Svetoslav JIVKOV	Rome
		Deputy Permanent Representative to FAO	

<b>BURKINA FASO</b>			<b>CANADA (cont.)</b>	
Représentant			G. GRENIER	Hull
Fulgence TOE	Rome		Director	
Représentant permanent adjoint			Agricultural Sector	
auprès de la FAO			Canadian International Development	
			Agency	
<b>BURMA - BIRMANIE - BIRMANIA</b>				
Representative			H. AMYS (Ms.)	Ottawa
U SAN MAUNG	Rome		Regulatory Projects Officer	
Ambassador, Permanent Representative			Pesticides Directorate	
to FAO			Agriculture Canada	
<b>BURUNDI</b>			<b>CAPE VERDE - CAP-VERT - CABO VERDE</b>	
Representative			Suppléant	
Cyprien NTARYAMIRA	Bujumbura		Maria de LOURDES DUARTE (Mme.)	Rome
Directeur général de l'agriculture			Attachée agricole, Représentant	
Ministère de l'agriculture			permanent adjoint auprès de la FAO	
et de l'élevage				
<b>CAMEROON - CAMEROUN - CAMERUN</b>			<b>CHILE - CHILI</b>	
Représentant			Representante	
MARC MOLU	Yaoundé		Antonio L. GARRIDO ACUÑA	Roma
Directeur de l'agriculture			Primer Secretario	
Ministère de l'agriculture			Representante Alterno	
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			MA GENG-OU	Beijing
Alternates			Division Chief	
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Minister Counsellor			副代表	
Permanent Representative to FAO			马庚耿      北 京	
			高级工程师	
Ed LISTER	Ottawa		农业部国际合作司	
Director				
Animal Research Centre			GONG JIANCHUN	Rome
Agriculture Canada			Alternate Permanent Representative	
			to FAO	
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Senior Programme Officer			常驻粮农组织副代表	
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Natural Resources Division			Gonzalo BULA HOYOS	Roma
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Agency				

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## Suplentes

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Embajada de Colombia

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Embajada de Colombia

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## Suppléant

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Représentant permanent suppléant  
auprès de la FAO

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- REPUBLICA POPULAR DEMOCRATICA DE COREA

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## Representante

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## Representative

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مندوب  
\* يوسف حمدى  
الممثل الدائم المناوب لمصر  
لدى المنظمة روما

## EL SALVADOR

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IRAN, REPUBBLICA ISLAMICA DEL

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توفيق أحمد المشهداني  
الممثل الدائم المناوب للعراق  
لدى المنظمة روما

## IRELAND - IRLANDE - IRLANDA

## Representative

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الممثل الدائم المناوب للأردن  
لدى المنظمة  
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\* عبد الحامد محمد طرابلس

Mustafa MUAFA Tripoli  
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Protección Agrícola y Forestal  
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Ministry of Development Cooperation		and Food Economy	
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المراقبون من الدول الأعضاء في المنظمةالتي لا تتمتع بعضوية اللجنة

非本委员会成员的成员国观察员

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Agricultural Office

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عمان

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أحنف بن عمر الزبيدي مسقط  
المدير العام للزراعة بالوكالة  
وزارة الزراعة والثروة السمكية

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على الأشبري  
الممثل الدائم لدى المنظمة روما

المراقبون من الدول الأعضاء في الأمم المتحدة

联合国会员国的观察员

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Representation to FAO

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Lelio BERNARDI  
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ممثلو الأمم المتحدة والوكالات المتخصصة

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 PROGRAMME ALIMENTAIRE MONDIAL -  
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المراقبون من المنظمات الحكومية

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OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES  
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Sara GUALANDI Membre du Bureau de Représentation des Communautés Européennes à Rome	Rome	ORGANIZACION DE COOPERACION Y DESARROLLO ECONOMICOS	
		Giuseppe VASTA Consultant, Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	Rome

المراقبون من المنظمات غير الحكومية

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OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES  
OBSERVADORES DE LAS ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

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CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS		INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC RURAL ASSOCIATION - ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE RURALE CATHOLIQUE - ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL RURAL CATOLICA	
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Observer

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## STATEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

delivered by

C.H. Bonte-Friedheim  
Assistant Director-General  
Agriculture Department

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Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates and Observers,

I am pleased to welcome you on behalf of the Director-General to the Tenth, and very important, Session of the Committee on Agriculture.

Looking back over the two years since the last meeting of the Committee there are reasons for hope and, sadly, reasons for continuing concern.

The state of world food security gives great concern. The paradoxical situation that emerged in the mid-1980s of an abundance of food supplies coexisting with continued want and even widespread malnutrition in many developing countries, started to change in 1987. The 1987 monsoon in much of Asia was one of the worst on record, particularly in India. Fortunately India had considerable stocks of cereals and a large-scale famine was averted. At the world level, food production fell slightly in 1987, cereal stocks were reduced and prices began to rise, particularly for rice. Then in 1988, world food production failed to grow for the second year in succession, an unprecedented event since the end of World War II. World production of staple foods, mainly cereals, once again fell below consumption levels.

This potentially serious situation was the result of a fall in output of the developed countries in 1988, and mainly a consequence of the severe drought in North America. Food output in the developing countries, however, increased nearly 3 percent, a welcome development which resulted from a sharp recovery over much of Asia and in Africa where the locust threat had been effectively controlled. Indeed, following large cereal harvests, 20 African countries currently need exceptional donor assistance to help them dispose of cereal surpluses in order to avoid a collapse of prices in domestic markets resulting in reduced incentives to plant in the current season. The World Food Programme and several bilateral donors have assisted some of these countries through local purchases, triangular transactions and swap arrangements, but assistance so far has failed to cope with the situation; a state of affairs which serves to underline, once again, the lack of effective demand for food in these poor countries, their undeveloped markets and lack of infrastructure such as stores.

As a consequence of the failure of world cereal production to increase for two years in succession, world stocks of cereals carried over from the record harvests of 1984-86 have been seriously drawn down. The 1989/90 crop year will begin with carryover stocks equivalent to only 16 percent of trend consumption. This would be the lowest ratio since the period of the world food crisis of the early 1970s. Cereal prices on international markets either have risen sharply - such as wheat which has risen nearly 50 percent during the past year - or have remained firm - as in the case of rice. As a consequence, cereal imports on commercial terms will cost the developing countries an extra US\$5 billion this year, with the low-income food-deficit countries accounting for about one-half of this massive sum. For many countries this will pose an additional charge on external accounts already burdened by debt servicing costs.

In the global context of widespread international debt and economic difficulties, it is pertinent to recall the conclusions of the recent meeting of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), held in Rome. In considering the effects of economic stabilization and structural adjustment programmes on food security, the

CFS expressed great concern about the experience to date with such programmes and their effect on the food security of the poor. They often resulted in sharp falls in the real purchasing power of the poor which limited their ability to buy food and other essential items. The CFS stressed the asymmetry between the negative and positive effects of adjustment, with the positive effects being uncertain and having a long period of gestation while the negative effects were more certain and immediate.

The Committee urged the adoption of measures to cushion the adverse short-term effects on the poor and other vulnerable groups through the targeting of food supplies to vulnerable households, the judicious subsidization of basic commodities purchased by the poor, food for work and special feeding programmes for women and children, as well as efforts to employ more poor people and so generate income for them. The CFS also urged that measures be taken to ensure that the expected future growth from the adjustment process would materialize and that the poor would benefit from it. Such measures included a greater focus on growth-generating aspects of adjustment rather than on short term stabilization, and central amongst these measures must be those that stimulate growth in agricultural productivity.

Another major concern is the widening gap between the rich and the poor, both internationally and within many countries. A number of factors underlie the widening gap between countries. Two factors are of particular importance.

The first factor is well established and relates to agricultural trade, protectionism and secondary processing of primary agricultural commodities. Part of the gap stems from the continuing decline in commodity export earnings which are constrained by protectionism. African exports, for example, declined in value by 45 percent between 1980 and 1987, with falling coffee and cocoa prices playing a major role in this decline. Another part of the gap comes from the lack of secondary processing in developing countries - for example, Africa only processes about 40 percent of its cotton and tobacco.

The second factor is of potential and future, rather than present, importance. It arises from the nature of certain technological trends, notably in biotechnology, which may evolve to the disadvantage of developing countries, and particularly the least developed ones. Much of the world's biotechnology expertise is in the private sector of the industrialized countries. Consequently, most of the developments in biotechnology are being applied to priorities, such as herbicide-tolerant cultivars, that are of minimal importance to low income countries, or which could seriously damage their export earnings, for example, the development of 'synthetic' essential oils and spices.

Unfortunately, this gap between rich and poor countries is commonly echoed within countries and within the agricultural sector. There is a widening gap in social well-being between rich and poor farmers. This dimension of the income gap is in part an inevitable consequence of differences in resource endowments. But it has been intensified often by the research and investment policies of both donors and national governments. Many of these policies, in the face of financial and skilled manpower constraints, have rightly placed major emphasis on the better endowed areas and dominant cereal crops in order to boost productivity and food security as quickly as possible. But, in doing so, they have allowed agricultural development strategies to become too unbalanced. This has led to the relative neglect of the problems of rainfed agriculture, to the intensification of human and cattle population pressures on the more marginal lands, and to a reduction in the availability of secondary crops like pulses and tubers that play such a vital role in the nutrition of low income groups.

During the coming days you will be reviewing FAO's recent work on the above and other problems, and also our proposals for the 1990-91 work programme.

The major point regarding recent work is the serious constraints to the implementation of the 1986-87 programme that have arisen as a consequence of the Organization's cash flow problems. The Director-General had no choice but to impose

cuts of US\$25 million in 1987, and some US\$20 million in 1988. Consequently vacant posts had to be left empty, the number of consultants was reduced, meetings and publications were cancelled, and travel was limited. These cuts have undermined FAO's ability to identify emerging issues and technical options, support governments in the formulation and implementation of agricultural policies, and fulfil its role as the world centre for the dissemination of technical information on agriculture. There are grounds for hoping that these problems will soon be behind us and that we can concentrate on fulfilling the Organization's mandate.

The Director-General's proposals for the Summary Programme of Work and Budget for 1990-91 seek to find the right balance between the continuation of existing lines of work and the examination of emerging issues and problems. As in the previous biennium, and in spite of the financial constraints FAO is facing, the Director-General has proposed a further shift in resources to the Major Programme Agriculture. His recommendations include increased allocations to seven priority areas that fall within this Committee's area of responsibility. They are: sustainable development, with the focus on sustainable production systems and the impact of climate change; remote sensing and crop/weather monitoring; promotion of biotechnology in crop and livestock production and processing; strengthening of support to plant protection services, particularly in Africa, for locust and general pest control or management; agricultural data development; policy advice and women in development. We look forward to receiving your views and suggestions regarding the overall programme and the Director-General's specific proposals.

You will be considering four development problems that are of widespread concern and have great bearing on both the present and the future content of Major Programme Agriculture. The first problem relates to the impact of urbanization on food consumption patterns and nutrition. Rapid urbanization is a common characteristic of development. It usually places great strain on both the urban infrastructure and on the links with the food production areas. The multiple effects of urbanization on dietary patterns, domestic and imported food requirements, and on agricultural production and processing in general have major implications for national policies and donor food and financial support which are not always well appreciated.

The second problem is the limited degree of people's participation. This is the first time that this subject has been on the agenda of COAG, reflecting the growing importance attached to the subject by FAO, its member governments and the international community. In most developing countries, the majority of rural people do not have adequate access to production resources and do not participate actively in the decision-making process, and, as a consequence, do not share sufficiently in the benefits of development. The full involvement of rural people in the development process is essential both as an end in itself and as a vehicle for promotion, development and equality in the rural areas. In this respect one should underline the importance of people's participation in moving from the concept of sustainable development advanced by the Brundtland Report to its implementation and achievement. Without their involvement, for example, in the identification of research needs, and in the application of resource conservation practices, sustainability will be difficult to achieve. Such meaningful participation of rural people can only be brought about through organizations and other institutional mechanisms that genuinely represent their interests.

The two other development problems before you also relate to the issue of sustainable development, and specifically to the loss of biological diversity and to the safe use of pesticides.

Animal genetic resources are increasingly threatened by steps to intensify production of domesticated animals, and to extend forestry and agriculture into natural woodlands and grasslands with the consequent elimination of wildlife. Many native breeds have already been lost, others are close to extinction, and a substantial proportion of the remainder are endangered. The problem is not restricted to domestic animals. In fact the distinction between domesticated animals and wildlife is becoming less relevant from a genetic resource point of view

because certain wild animals are increasingly being farmed, and new biotechnical tools are bringing us closer to the introduction of intra-specific gene transfers. Corrective actions to preserve animal genetic resources are urgently required. The paper on Preservation of Animal Genetic Resources makes a number of proposals for action that we would like the Committee to consider and upon which to make recommendations.

Finally, there is the issue of pesticide use and Prior Informed Consent (PIC). You will recall that Conference Resolution 5/87 directed that the principle of "Prior Informed Consent" be incorporated as a clause in the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides which you considered at your 8th Session. We are well aware that there are parties who, whilst accepting the intent of the clause, are concerned that it may be administratively difficult to introduce and may also inhibit trade unnecessarily. It is in the light of these concerns that FAO held a government consultation on this issue in January of this year with observers from other international organizations, environmental groups and industry. We look forward to your recommendations on the finalization of the text so that it can subsequently be adopted by consensus.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, it only remains for me to wish the Committee an interesting and productive session.



CODE OF CONDUCT ON THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF PESTICIDES -  
INTRODUCTION OF THE "PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT" (PIC) CLAUSE

The amended text, with the exception of the underlined words in Articles 2, 9.8.1 and 9.8.4 which were "in general accepted" (see para 172 of the COAG Report), was endorsed by the Committee on Agriculture as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES 2 AND 9 OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT ON THE  
DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF PESTICIDES

## ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS:

The following definition was added to this Article:

"Prior Informed Consent Procedure" (PIC procedure) means the procedure for formally obtaining and disseminating the decisions of importing countries as to whether they wish to receive future shipments of pesticides that have been banned or severely restricted. A specific procedure was established for selecting pesticides for initial implementation of the PIC procedures. These include pesticides that have been previously banned or severely restricted as well as certain pesticide formulations that are acutely toxic. This procedure is described in the Guidelines on the operation of Prior Informed Consent.

ARTICLE 9. INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT 1/

9.1 The government of any country that takes action to ban or severely restrict the use or handling of a pesticide in order to protect health or the environment should notify FAO as soon as possible of the action it has taken. FAO will notify the designated national authorities in other countries of the action of the notifying government.

9.2 The purpose of notification regarding control action is to give competent authorities in other countries the opportunity to assess the risks associated with the pesticides, and to make timely and informed decisions as to the importation and use of the pesticides concerned, after taking into account local, public health, economic, environmental and administrative conditions. The minimum information to be provided for this purpose should be:

9.2.1 the identity (common name, distinguishing name and chemical name);

9.2.2 a summary of the control action taken and of the reasons for it - if the control action bans or restricts certain uses but allows other uses, such information should be included;

9.2.3 an indication of the additional information that is available, and the name and address of the contact point in the country to which a request for further information should be addressed.

Information Exchange among Countries

9.3 If export of a pesticide banned or severely restricted in the country of export occurs, the country of export should ensure that necessary steps are taken to provide the designated national authority of the country of import with relevant information.

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1/ The operational procedures for the Prior Informed Consent scheme are given in specific Guidelines.

9.4 The purpose of information regarding exports is to remind the country of import of the original notification regarding control action and to alert it to the fact that an export is expected or is about to occur. The minimum information to be provided for this purpose should be:

9.4.1 a copy of, or reference to, the information provided at the time of the notification of control action;

9.4.2 indication that an export of the chemical concerned is expected or is about to occur.

9.5 Provision of information regarding exports should take place at the time of the first export following the control action, and should recur in the case of any significant development of new information or condition surrounding the control action. It is the intention that the information should be provided prior to export.

9.6 The provision to individual countries of any additional information on the reasons for control actions taken by any country must take into account protection of any proprietary data from unauthorized use.

#### Prior Informed Consent

9.7 Pesticides that are banned or severely restricted for reasons of health or the environment are subject to the Prior Informed Consent procedure. No pesticide in these categories should be exported to a importing country participating contrary to that country's decision made in accordance with the FAO operational procedures for PIC.

9.8 FAO will

9.8.2 in cooperation with UNEP, develop and maintain a data base of control actions and decisions taken by all member governments;

9.8.3 inform all designated national authorities and relevant international organizations of, and publicise in such form as may be appropriate, notifications received under Article 9.1 and decisions communicated to it regarding the use and importation of a pesticide that has been included in the PIC procedure.

9.9 Governments of importing countries should establish internal procedures and designate the appropriate authority for the receipt and handling of information.

9.10 Governments of importing countries participating in the PIC procedure, when advised by FAO of control action within this procedure, should:

9.10.1 decide on future acceptability of that pesticide in their country and advise FAO as soon as that decision has been made;

9.10.2 ensure that governmental measures or actions taken with regard to an imported pesticide for which information has been received are not more restrictive than those applied to the same pesticide produced domestically or imported from a country other than the one that supplied the information;

9.10.3 ensure that such a decision is not used inconsistently with the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT);

9.11 Governments of pesticide exporting countries should:

9.11.1 advise their pesticide exporters and industry of the decisions of participating importing countries; and

9.11.2 take appropriate measures, within their authority and legislative competence, designed to ensure that exports do not occur contrary to the decision of participating importing countries.

Modifications in Articles 2, 9.8.1 and 9.8.4 as underlined received general acceptance:

ARTICLE 2:

The following definition was added to this Article:

"Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) refers to the principle that international shipment of a pesticide that is banned or severely restricted in order to protect human health or the environment should not proceed without the agreement, where such agreement exists, or contrary to the decision of the designated national authority in the participating importing country.

ARTICLE 9:

9.8 FAO will

9.8.1 review notifications of control actions to ensure conformity with definitions in Article 2 of the Code, and will develop the relevant guidance documents.

9.8.4 FAO will seek advice at regular intervals and review the criteria for inclusion of pesticides in the Prior Informed Consent procedure and the operation of the Prior Informed Consent scheme and will report to member governments on its findings.

## GUIDELINES ON THE OPERATION OF PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT (PIC)

### EXECUTING AGENCY

The report of the Expert Consultation on the Introduction of "Prior Informed Consent" in Article 9 of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides stressed the importance of cooperation between UNEP and FAO in the operation of a prior informed consent scheme. Because of the expertise FAO has in the field of pesticide use, management and control and the comprehensive network of FAO contacts in UN Member Nations, FAO will operate the PIC scheme as far as pesticides are concerned. FAO will, in cooperation with UNEP, manage and implement the scheme, including the selection of pesticides to be covered by the PIC scheme, mechanisms for information sharing and compatibility of procedures.

### OPERATION OF PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT

#### Step 1 - Participation in PIC

Member nations will be invited, through official FAO channels, to participate in the operation of Prior Informed Consent as importing countries. If there is no reply to the initial contact, a follow up letter will be sent 60 days after the first one. In countries where there is an FAO representation, FAO Representatives will seek a decision from the country. Until a response is received, it will be assumed that the country does not wish to participate. It is expected that all pesticide exporting countries will participate in the PIC scheme.

#### Step 2 - Designation of National Authority

Member nations will be invited to designate the appropriate authority which should supply FAO with the notices of control action taken by the government. This authority will be responsible for receiving and giving notices on decisions on whether the country wishes (to continue) to receive imports of pesticides included in the PIC procedure. For information purposes FAO will also be informed about the authority that has technical responsibility for pesticide use and/or control (registration authority or equivalent).

#### Step 3 - Notification of Control Actions

The designated National Authority would advise FAO of control actions taken in the country to ban, to refuse registration, or severely restrict a pesticide for health or environmental reasons, as included in the definition, as well as any other actions to withdraw a pesticide for health or environmental reasons. This does not include actions to revoke or withdraw a pesticide registration for non-submission of data or for commercial reasons.

In deciding to notify, countries must abide by the definitions of banned and severely restricted in the Code of Conduct, namely:

Banned means a pesticide for which all registered uses have been prohibited by final government regulatory action, or for which all requests for registration or equivalent action for all uses have, for health or environmental reasons, not been granted.

Severely restricted - a limited ban - means a pesticide for which virtually all registered uses have been prohibited by final government regulatory action for health or environmental reasons,<sup>1/</sup> but specific registered use or uses remain authorized.

The information forwarded to FAO should be provided in the format shown in Annex I to this Appendix. It should be noted that the reasons for the control action for health or environmental reasons should be provided in each case. A separate form should be completed for each pesticide. Countries should be prepared to provide additional detailed information on request.

#### Step 4 - Selecting pesticides to be included in the PIC procedure

FAO will, in cooperation with UNEP/IRPTC and other relevant organizations, review all notifications to ensure conformity with the definitions. Pesticides will be included in the PIC procedure when FAO is advised by a government that it has taken final control action consistent with the definition of banned or severely restricted for health or environmental reasons in the Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides.

Additionally, an FAO Expert Panel will consider the problem of acutely hazardous pesticide formulations, i.e. those that pose particular handling problems, to determine if there exists a need for a list of such products to supplement the pesticides already subject to the PIC procedure. This Panel should include national pesticide registrars and representatives from WHO and UNEP. They may call upon expertise as they deem necessary and will review formulations which are included in WHO Class 1A. If the Panel concludes that there are acutely hazardous pesticide formulations of concern to developing countries that are not already included in the PIC procedure, a supplemental list of such formulations will be recommended for inclusion.

FAO will develop a "PIC decision guidance document" for each pesticide to be circulated with the notice of control action for response by participating importing countries and for information of other countries.

#### Pesticides that have already been subject to control action

For pesticides that have already been subject to control action, a different procedure will be followed. Close cooperation with UNEP (IRPTC) will be sought for such a procedure. All FAO Member Governments will be asked to submit notifications of past control actions for health and environmental reasons before 31 December 1989. These will then, in cooperation with relevant Organizations, together with information already available in IRPTC, be evaluated on their conformity with the definitions. PIC guidance documents will be developed, initially for pesticides banned or severely restricted in five or more countries, for those pesticides that conform to the definitions and these PIC guidance documents will be submitted to participating governments for decision. Superseded pesticides will not be submitted to this procedure as they will not appear in international trade.

NOTE: THE MAJORITY OF COAG SUPPORTED LEAVING THE "TRIGGER" LEVEL UNCHANGED, I.E. FIVE OR MORE ACTIONS

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<sup>1/</sup> "For health or environmental reasons" was not repeated in the definition of severely restricted in the Code but is included in this paper for clarification.

### Step 5 - FAO Processing of Notification

FAO will inform Member Nations of control actions taken and will send a PIC decision guidance document on the pesticide to the designated national authority. This document will provide a summary of information including chemical and physical properties, uses, source of exposure, toxicity profile, countries that have taken control actions and the reasons for such actions and also, when available, suggested possible alternatives. It should be recognized that any suggestion of alternatives can only be general in nature, as specific alternatives could only be recommended following a careful study of the pest/crop complex in an individual country.

### Step 6 - Response by Participating Countries

After each notification, each importing country that has decided to participate in the PIC procedure in Step 1, would advise FAO whether or not it will allow imports of the pesticide(s) in question. <sup>2/</sup> A response should be made within 90 days of advice being sent from FAO to the designated national authority. A country may make a final response or an interim response.

#### Final response

A final response will consist of a statement by the national authority as to whether or not the country will ban imports for health or environmental reasons. It is understood that the country will also discontinue production for the national market if importation is banned for health or environmental reasons, or whether importation will only be allowed under specified, stated conditions. It is also understood that the importing country may wish to permit the use of products that are in stock at the time the prohibition of imports is imposed.

#### Interim response

In an interim response the country would advise about each pesticide in the PIC procedure in one of the following ways:

1. A request for further information.
2. A statement that future importation is under review.
3. A request for assistance to evaluate the pesticide.

Any of the replies may be accompanied by an interim importation statement that the importation will or will not be allowed, or whether importation will only be allowed under specified, stated conditions, during the period until a final decision is reached. In the event that such statement is not made, the status quo will continue (see meaning of no response).

#### Meaning of no response

In some instances a participating importing country may not respond. Every effort will be made to avoid such a situation, but if it does occur, it will be considered as described in this paragraph. If a country does not make a final response or if it responds with less than a final response without providing an interim importation statement, the status quo with respect to importations will continue. This means that the pesticide should not be exported without the explicit consent of the importing country, unless the exporter has evidence that it is a pesticide that is registered in the importing country or if it is a pesticide the use of which has been allowed by the importing country.

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<sup>1/</sup> An import order by a Government authority will be assumed to have the consent of the Government and, thus, to have precedence over the PIC procedure.

### National control on imports

At the time an interim or final decision to ban importation for health or environmental reasons is made, the national agency responsible for controlling imports will be instructed to take the relevant import control actions. Where such exists, local production will also be subjected to the control action. Importing countries would take all necessary measures to prohibit importation and local production.

#### Step 7 - Action to be taken by FAO

FAO will advise all designated national authorities of the responses of individual countries. FAO will maintain a database on country decisions and will also make information available to National Authorities at regular intervals in an appropriate form. FAO will seek advice at regular intervals and review the criteria for inclusion of pesticides in the PIC procedure and the operation of the PIC scheme and will report to its member governments on its findings.

#### Step 8 - Actions to be taken by exporting countries

National authorities of exporting countries would inform the appropriate authorities and the pesticide export industry of decisions by importing countries. Governments would implement appropriate procedures, within their authorities, to help ensure that exports do not occur contrary to the decision of the participating importing country.

### INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The successful operation of the process of Prior Informed Consent for pesticides is completely dependant on the free exchange and rapid processing of information provided by various countries. The PIC procedure is in addition to, and does not replace, any system of information exchange between countries nor does it influence the right of any country to seek additional information on the reasons for any control action which a country may take on a pesticide.

BANNED OR SEVERELY RESTRICTED PESTICIDES

REPORT TO FAO

- 1 COUNTRY .....
- 2 NAME, ADDRESS AND CONTACT OF ORGANIZATION SUPPLYING INFORMATION  
.....  
.....  
.....  
Telex ..... Telephone ..... Fax .....
- 3 IDENTITY OF PESTICIDE  
Common name .....  
Distinguishing name .....  
Chemical name .....
- 4 SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR BANNING OR SEVERELY RESTRICTING  
.....  
.....  
.....
- 5 SUMMARY OF REMAINING USES OF SEVERELY RESTRICTED PESTICIDES  
.....  
.....  
.....
- 6 NAME, ADDRESS AND CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION (if different  
from 2)  
.....  
.....  
Telex ..... Telephone ..... Fax .....
- 7 LIST ANY RELEVANT REFERENCES  
.....  
.....
- 8 DATE ABOVE DECISIONS CAME INTO FORCE  
.....  
(date) (month in words) (year)
- 9 SIGNATURE ..... (Person)  
..... (Designation)  
..... (Date as day/month/year)





