

Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members

Agenda item 5.1: Review of the Multi-Year Programme of Work 2024–27

	Comments (all were provided in English)
<p>New Zealand</p> <p>Monday, 1 July 2024, 6:22 PM</p>	<p>New Zealand is fully supportive of the work of the Sub Committee on Livestock and supporting the multi year programme of work 2024-27. We do however think that this endorsement of the multi-year programme of work 2024-27 should be progressed following discussions at the upcoming sub-Committee on livestock and not approved through written procedure.</p> <p>We welcome the opportunity for further discussions on this in the upcoming plenary session.</p> <p>We also want to make strong request regarding any consultations on the proposed Global Plan of Action, that the region of the Southwest Pacific is engaged with fully and not a part of a wider Asia Pacific grouping.</p>
<p>Switzerland</p> <p>Tuesday, 2 July 2024, 11:29 AM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switzerland thanks the Secretariat for the preparation of the document COAG:LI/2024/11. • In general, Switzerland believes that solutions to increase sustainability must be tailored to local circumstances. In line with the SDGs these solutions need to take into account a holistic food systems approach, addressing all parts of the food value chain and beyond such as food waste and reuse. • With regard to the priority areas of the Sub-Committee’s work Switzerland has the following remarks on the overarching themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A) “Sustainable livestock systems for food security and nutrition and inclusive economic growth”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We welcome the initiation of a Global Plan of Action on Livestock. • The acknowledgment of small-scale producers is important. However, there is a need for a more systemic perspective including all realities and structural situations. Addressing an agroecological approach could have a supporting effect here. ○ B) “Animal, public and environmental health through One Health approach”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We welcome the holistic approach to food systems. To complete the picture, the document should request the integration of true cost accounting. ○ C) “Natural resource use, climate change and biodiversity”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We note that there is neither a reference to FAO’s own strategies on Climate Change as well as Mainstreaming Biodiversity Across Agricultural Sectors nor to their Action Plans. We kindly request more information how the planned work within the framework of the sub-committee is aligned with these Strategies and their respective Action Plans. • Since the last Sub-committee meeting, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework has been adopted. The livestock sector has an important role to play in achieving the targets of this landmark agreement. We would welcome an update on how the MYPOW supports the implementation of the KM-GBF. • Agrobiodiversity and genetic resources including breeding need to be mentioned explicitly. • We appreciate the expected collaboration with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and would like to recall that opportunities for

	<p>collaboration should be identified beyond the recent decision on pollinators. In particular, the work under the Framework for Action as well as the Intergovernmental working group on animal genetic resources should be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We welcome the explicit collaboration with partners such as GASL, LEAP and GRA as well as COFO. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IV. Global Plan of Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We welcome the initiation of a Global Plan of Action on Livestock Process. ○ It is important to include all relevant stakeholders in the livestock sector in the process in particular multistakeholder partnerships such as GASL, LEAP and GRA. • VI. Funding the Sub-Committee programme of work: We would like to know more about the budgetary and human resource implications of organizing an extraordinary Sub-Committee on Livestock session in 2025.
<p>United States of America</p> <p>Tuesday, 2 July 2024, 3:51 PM</p>	<p>The United States is pleased with the Sub-Committee on Livestock's implementation of the Multiyear Plan of Work and is optimistic about the Sub-Committee's ability to implement what is proposed in the MYPOW 2024-27. We note that the Sub-Committee's ability to implement any work plan is contingent upon sufficient funds. We are pleased to see collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and the World Organization of Animal Health, and are encourage with the continued outreach as the Sub-Committee moves forward with enacting the MYPOW.</p> <p>The United States can accept the proposed MYPOW 2024-27 provided that it is updated to reflect whatever consensus is agreed to by Members in the Sub-Committee Session.</p>
<p>Malaysia</p> <p>Wednesday, 3 July 2024, 7:45 AM</p>	<p>Malaysia is looking forward to the MYPOW 2024-27.</p>
<p>European Union</p> <p>Wednesday, 3 July 2024, 6:34 PM</p>	<p>Mr Chair,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am honoured to write to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States. 2. Albania, Moldova and Montenegro align themselves with this statement. 3. In the first instance, we welcome the detailed report on the positive activities of the bureau and secretariat since the first session of the Sub-Committee and wish to acknowledge the presentation of the proposal on the Multi-Year Programme of Work 2024-2027. 4. We recall that, at the previous session, we stressed the need for a balanced and integrated approach to the work of the Sub-Committee that considers the three dimensions of sustainability on an equal footing. In this respect, we acknowledge the continued focus in the work programme on the three major thematic work areas set out, which we believe must remain closely aligned and evenly balanced in implementation. 5. Further development of the web-based repository of alternative feeding practices to reduce the incorrect use of medically important antimicrobials is essential in the fight against AMR. The MYPOW should ensure that the Quadripartite commissions the OHHLEP with the technical assessment of the system and the definition of a universally valid "One Health early warning system".

	<p>6. Small-scale livestock production plays a critical role in protecting vulnerable communities against climate crisis, upheavals, and shocks, which occur with increasing frequency. Supply chains in the sector are also often fragile and prone to disruption. For these reasons we welcome the availability of Global Assessment component documents 2 and 3 which confirm the positive role that well-adjusted livestock systems can play in combatting climate impacts while supporting the livelihoods of small-scale producers. We are disappointed to learn however, that the planned study into the impacts and lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic on the sector has not been able to proceed. Therefore, we urge rapid progress concerning the outcomes of the consultations held on a voluntary guidance tool for small-scale producers.</p> <p>7. Under the thematic work area of Natural Resource Use, Climate Crisis and Biodiversity, we welcome the emphasis on the interrelationship and linkages that naturally exist between livestock production systems such as pastoralism, and the positive and negative roles that they can play in relation to soil and water protection, threatened ecosystems, and silvopastoral systems. In this respect, we note and encourage further cross-committee collaboration in addressing these issues, particularly in the lead up to the 2026 International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.</p> <p>8. The continuation of monitoring advances of FAO in methods for mitigation and adaptation to climate change and the support of data collections are highly appreciated. We welcome FAO efforts to develop a guidance document on the opportunities for Members to participate in compliant and voluntary carbon markets within the livestock sector.</p> <p>9. We believe that the Sustainable Livestock Transformation Framework, offers an opportunity to accelerate the necessary sustainable transformation of the livestock sector. We call on FAO to develop a global plan of action for sustainable livestock transformation, taking into account the conclusions of the Sustainable Livestock Transformation conference of September 2023 and of the Sub-Committee on Livestock. However, in order to do this effectively, such a plan, must not duplicate or detract from any of the individual actions foreseen in the work programme of the Sub-Committee; rather, it must demonstrate value-added in its approach.</p> <p>10. Finally, Mr Chair, we take note of the points raised concerning funding arrangements to support the work of the Sub-Committee. EU and other European countries recognise the importance of the work of the committee and have provided significant funding to support its efforts.</p> <p>11. With these concluding remarks, we support the draft MYPOW 2024-2027 and look forward to its approval at COAG 29.</p> <p>Thank you, Mr. Chair</p>
<p>Australia Monday, 8 July 2024, 6:25 PM</p>	<p>Australia thanks FAO for preparing the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW), and we broadly support the draft MYPOW as presented.</p> <p>On priority one – sustainable livestock systems for food security and nutrition and inclusive economic growth – Australia thanks FAO for delivering Assessment document 1 in full, and documents 2 and 3 in draft form.</p> <p>We note the proposed change in format for document 4, with the goal to create an action-orientated global instrument to guide and accelerate sustainable livestock transformation. We stress that the actions proposed should be underpinned by a science- and evidence-base to ensure that subsequent policies and outcomes are effective and fit-for-purpose. Recommendations must consider the unique requirements and environments of livestock sectors, and reiterate that when it comes to sustainability initiatives, no one size fits all and local circumstances should be considered.</p>

We note with interest FAO's successful consultations on a voluntary guidance tool for sustainably enhancing the productivity of small-scale livestock producers. We again emphasise the importance of considering all livestock production systems to ensure there is a whole-of-sector approach to livestock sustainability and the achievement of SDG2.

On priority 2 – animal, public and environmental health through the One Health approach – Australia strongly supports the One Health Agenda, and we reiterate the critical importance of a One Health approach to protect the health of humans, animals and the environment. We encourage FAO to continue its close relationship within the Quadripartite to jointly pursue the One Health approach.

Anti-microbial resistance (AMR) is an important issue for Australia and our region. Australia's 'National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy – 2020 and Beyond' (2020 AMR Strategy) sets a 20-year vision to protect the health of humans, animals and the environment, in alignment with the WHO's Global Action Plan on AMR. We note FAO's work on Alternative feeding practices to promote responsible use of antimicrobials, and look forward to further discussions at the session.

On priority 3 – natural resource use, climate change and biodiversity – we note FAO's work on GHG emissions and carbon markets and refer to our comments on Item 2.4.

Australia looks forward to further FAO policy documents on sustainable rangeland management, diversity of animal genetic resources for food and agriculture, and ecosystem services produced by livestock.

Australia noted with interest the presentation of the Sustainable Livestock Transformation Framework (SLTF) at the FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation. We support FAO's proposal for a participatory approach to developing further products in this vein, and look forward to further discussion at the session.

We note that FAO is developing a proposal to establish future funding arrangements for the sub-committee. Given that current funding will only cover the upcoming session, we request FAO provide an update at the session on possible avenues to address this looming shortfall.