



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

## European Commission on Agriculture (ECA)

37/1 Meeting of the Executive Committee

15/12/2017

11.00 – 13.00 hours

### Draft Annotated Agenda

#### Present

- Chairperson:** Mr Damien Kelly (Ireland)
- Members present:** Mr Spyridon Ellinas (Cyprus) (First Vice-Chair)  
Ms Galina Jevgrafova (Estonia) (Second Vice-Chair)  
Ms Aulikki Hulmi (Finland)  
Ms Khatia Tsilosani (Georgia)  
Ms Ágnes Dús (Hungary)  
Ms Zora Weberova (Slovakia)  
Mr Ali Recep Nazli (Turkey), present for part of the meeting
- Members absent:** Ms Graziella Romito (Italy), represented at the meeting by Mr Davide Bradanini
- REU Secretariat:** Mr Reuben Sessa, Secretary of ECA (REU)  
Mr Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader (REU)  
Mr Goran Stavrik, Acting Secretary of the 31st ERC (REU)  
Mr Andriy Rozstalnyy, Animal Health and Production Officer (REU)

#### Agenda:

1. **Briefing of the new members of the Executive Committee on the tasks, mandate, modalities and function of the Executive Committee of the ECA (37/1-2 Rules of Procedure)**
2. **Draft workplan and meeting schedule of the ECA Executive Committee until next ECA in 2019 (37/1-3)**
3. **Follow-up to the recommendations stemming from the 40th ECA Session in Budapest, Hungary (ECA/40/17/REPORT – Final Report of the 40th ECA)**
4. **Preparation for the 31st Session of the ERC**
5. **Any other business**

The meeting was opened by Mr Damien Kelly, Permanent Representative of Ireland to FAO. The chair welcomed the members of the Executive Committee to the first meeting after the 40th Session of the ECA and congratulated new members Ms Galina Jevgrafova, Ms Aulikki Hulmi, Ms Khatia Tsilosani, Ms Ágnes Dús, Ms Graziella Romito, Ms Zora Weberova and Mr Ali Recep Nazli.

The members also agreed with the draft agenda for the meeting as it was distributed by the Secretariat.

**Agenda item 1: Briefing of the new members of the Executive Committee on the tasks, mandate, modalities and function of the Executive Committee of the ECA** (37/1-2 Rules of Procedure)

Mr Raimund Jehle and Mr Reuben Sessa briefed the members of the Executive Committee of the ECA specifically regarding the tasks, mandate and modalities related to the Executive Committee. Members thanked the Secretariat for the introduction and the support provided to the Executive Committee and looked forward to working to further improve the impact of the ECA.

**Action:** No action needed

**Agenda item 2: Draft workplan and meeting schedule of the ECA Executive Committee until next ECA in 2019** (37/1-3)

The Secretariat presented the draft time schedule and session plan for the current biennium up to the 41st Session of the ECA, which is planned to take place in May–June of 2019. Overall, the members expressed their agreement with the work and time plan. However, they have raised the following issues:

- The Secretariat should prioritize the tasks listed in the work plan.
- Early planning should be ensured regarding ECA Executive Committee meetings to avoid problems with availability and to leave enough time for the members to prepare for the meetings.
- It was determined that the Informal Consultation should be organized at the end of 2018 or beginning of 2019.
- Committee members noted that 2020 will be the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), and in this regard a related theme could be strategic for the ECA 41st session.

**Action:**

Secretariat to update the work and session plan as outlined in the report. Executive Committee members are encouraged to reflect on and consider areas of work and how the ECA could be improved.

**Agenda item 3: Follow-up to the recommendations stemming from the 40th ECA Session in Budapest, Hungary** (ECA/40/17/REPORT – Final Report of the 40th ECA)

Mr Andriy Rozstalnyy presented the recommendations as outlined in the report from the 40th Session of the ECA and highlighted the related work programmes in the 2018–2019 biennium. He noted results under new Regional Initiative 3 on managing natural resources sustainably, under a changing climate, and how they will directly support some of the recommendations from the 40th session of the ECA. In particular, he noted and briefed the Committee on FAO assistance to member states to control African swine fever and lumpy skin disease and prevent their progressive spread in Europe and Central Asia. The Committee members thanked the Secretariat for the presentation and raised the following issues:

- The Secretariat should ensure that recommendations from the 40th Session of the ECA on transboundary diseases and climate are considered when implementing FAO projects and regular programme activities, and FAO should enhance the cooperation with the European Commission and World Organisation for Animal Health under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases for Europe.

**Action:**

No action needed, however, the Secretariat will update the Executive Committee on progress made when appropriate.

**Agenda item 4: Preparation for the 31st Session of the ERC**

Mr Goran Stavrik and Mr Raimund Jehle presented the draft agenda of the upcoming 31st Session of the ERC to be held in Voronezh, Russian Federation, 16–18 May 2018. Overall, the members expressed their appreciation towards the ERC Secretariat for the good choice of the Ministerial Round Table topic and for the hard work to prepare the draft agenda. The following issues were raised:

- To include the outcomes of the Agroecology Symposium – held one month before the ERC – in the Ministerial Round Table discussions.
- To emphasize agroecology in the Ministerial Round Table – title and annotation – in a way that still leaves enough space for an open debate about sustainable food systems in general.

**Action:**

The Secretariat to share the updated agenda and background documentation with the Executive Committee and the Europe Regional Group.

**Agenda item 6: Any other business**

No other issues were raised, and thus the meeting was closed by the chair.

**Action:**

No action needed.

**Closing of the Session:**

The chair thanked the Secretariat for the good preparation of background documents and for their support throughout the meeting.