



## Draft Agenda

### Informal consultation Meeting for Europe and Central Asia 29-30 May 2017, Budapest, Hungary

#### Background

Given the limited presence of FAO at country level in the Europe and Central Asia Region, informal consultation provides the platform on which the FAO Regional Office and member countries can interact between sessions of the European Regional Conference. Used successfully since 2010, this mechanism has been well received by both beneficiary and donor countries in the Region.

The main purpose of the informal consultations has been:

- 1) To review priorities in the Region in preparation for the Regional Conference
- 2) To inform and update the member countries of the Region on the implementation of FAO's programme of work in the Region
- 3) To facilitate an exchange of views and provide a discussion platform for all members of the European and Central Asia Region to allow dialogue with countries that are not members of the European Regional Group in Rome

#### Scope of Informal Consultation

The 30<sup>th</sup> FAO Regional Conference for Europe (4-6 May 2016) considered the implementation of FAO's work in the Europe and Central Asia region in 2016-17 and priorities for FAO's work in the region, including as a contribution to the review of the FAO Strategic Framework and preparation of the Medium Term Plan 2018-21.<sup>1</sup> Since then, Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs) are being updated and adjusted to better focus FAO's work at country level in the current and next biennium. Based on a review of the preliminary results achieved for the 2016-17 biennium and the regional priorities, the future content and scope of FAO's Regional Initiatives needs to be considered.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture will be held in Budapest in September 2017. The ECA session will also be an integral element of the preparation to the ERC 2018, and will discuss technical issues for decision at the ERC 2018. The results of the Informal Consultation and the ECA Session will inform the agenda for the ERC 2018.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mq752e.pdf>. C. Priorities for FAO's work in the Europe and Central Asia region, para. 21-24

Monday, 29 May 2017	
11.00-13.00	Registration
12.00-13.00	Lunch
<b><u>Session 1 - Plenary</u></b> <b>Opening, welcome, and main objectives of the meeting</b>	
13.00-13.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Sandor Fazekas, Minister of Agriculture, Hungary</li> <li>• Mr Vladimir Rakhmanin, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia</li> <li>• Mr Aleksandar Drljevic, Permanent Representative of Montenegro to FAO, Vice-Chair of the European Regional Group</li> </ul>
<b><u>Session 2 - Plenary</u></b> <b>Implementation of FAO's work in the region in 2016-2017 with a focus on the Regional Initiatives</b>	
13.30-14.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO</li> </ul>
<b><u>Session 3 - Workshop</u></b> <b>Review of the priorities for the Region for the 2018-19 biennium alignment with SDGs, Climate Change Agreement and ICN2</b>	
14.30-16.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group A) Formulation of effective policies for sustainable and inclusive growth for farmers and the rural population with emphasis on smallholders and family farms within overall agricultural and development policies.</li> <li>• Group B) How to enhance the reach towards new markets through alignment of trade, food safety and SPS policies to meet WTO commitments and international food safety and quality requirements through value-chain development.</li> <li>• Group C) Sustainable natural resource management, combating land degradation and desertification, including mitigation and adaptation to climate change, which will be key areas of action in the medium and long term.</li> <li>• Group D) Addressing food insecurity and reduction of all forms of malnutrition, which are major challenges in the medium and long term</li> </ul> <p>Coffee will be served during the sessions.</p>

**Session 4 - Plenary**  
**Outcomes of the Workshops on Review of the priorities for the Region for the 2018-19 biennium**

16.30-17.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitators of Group A, B, C, D</li> </ul>
-------------	--

**Tuesday, 30 May 2017**

**Session 5 - Plenary**  
**Regional Technical Commissions' contribution to the Regional Priorities**

9.00-10.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairs of ECA, EIFAAC, GFCM, CACFISH and EFC</li> </ul> <p>As the technical Commissions formally report to the ERC, and contribute to its agenda, the objective of this session is to seek the members views on how to enhance collaboration between the Executive Committees of the various Commissions on common topics, i.e. such as the SDGs and Climate Change and the way forward to facilitate exchanges between Commissions in order to better coordinate the inputs to the ERC. Discussion and views by the Members.</p>
------------	--

**Session 6 – Panel discussion**  
**Future Scope of Regional Initiatives**

10.00-11.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel discussion with a moderator and panellists from selected countries of the region</li> </ul>
11.00-11.30	Coffee break

**Session 7 – Plenary**  
**Draft Annotated Agenda for the 40<sup>th</sup> ECA**  
**Draft provisional annotated agenda for the 31<sup>st</sup> ERC**

11.30-12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft Annotated Agenda for the 40<sup>th</sup> ECA Introduction of the item by the ECA Secretary Discussion and views by the Members</li> <li>Draft provisional annotated agenda for the 31<sup>st</sup> ERC Introduction of the item by the ERC Secretariat Discussion and views by the Members</li> </ul>
-------------	--

**Session 8 – Plenary**  
**Wrap-up and closure**

12.30-13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the follow-up by the Secretariat</li> <li>Wrap-up and closure</li> </ul>
13.00	Lunch