

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

38/4 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

26 October 2020

(Online meeting)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson of ECA (Mr Paul KIERNAN) opened the meeting and welcomed the Members of the Executive Committee to the fourth meeting after the 41st Session of the ECA. Furthermore, the Chairperson thanked the Members for their flexibility and availability and the Secretariat and REU staff for their support, even in the busy times of ERC preparations.

The participants list is presented in Annex 1.

Adoption of the agenda

The meeting agenda was adopted without any changes.

The adopted meeting agenda is presented in Annex 2.

2. Update on the status of preparations for the 32nd Regional Conference for Europe

Mr Nabil GANGI, Secretary of the ERC, informed the ExCom about the received nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the ERC, and the lacking nominations for Rapporteurs. Furthermore, Mr Gangi summarized the results and next steps of the written consultation procedure, which included the Report of the 41st Session of ECA.

Mr Goran STAVRIK added that the Secretariat will organize two connectivity tests (Dry Runs), one on 29 October from 14.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs, and one on 30 October from 9.00 hrs to 10.00 hrs, about which registrants will be additionally informed. All registered participants are encouraged to connect for at least 5-10 min, so that they can test the audio, video and internet connection. Mr Stavrik continued encouraging Members to register to the event and informed the ExCom, that the list of registrants will be available through the registration platform.

Action:

Secretariat to share with ExCom the written statements received by ERC Members in relation to the ECA Report through the ERC written consultation process.

3. Roles and responsibilities of the ExCom in relation to ECA and ERC

Mr WLODARCZYK introduced answers to questions and issues raised by ExCom and the second draft of the ExCom Information Document, preparation of which was requested by ExCom.

The ExCom Members thanked the Acting-Secretary of the ECA for the answers and for further developing the ExCom Information Document. The Chairperson highlighted the important question of how ExCom could engage the ECA membership in Rome and involve everyone in the region in this dialogue, considering that Central Asian countries are not members of the ERG. Development of a Focal Point database could be one option for a pro-active communication channel. This setup is also used by other regional commissions in Europe and Central Asia.

The Acting-Secretary suggested that, in order to formulate working procedures concerning relations between ExCom and other bodies (such as ERG), it might be appropriate to undertake consultations between the Chairpersons of ExCom and those bodies. Mr Gangi suggested that as ERG is not a formal FAO governing body, the procedures should better refer to such consultations as consultations with 'Member States'.

ExCom agreed that Members will review the answers presented by the Secretariat and will provide their comments and inputs in writing to the Secretariat by 9 November.

Regarding next steps, ExCom recommended that ECA Secretariat proceed with addressing the remaining questions and issues, based on the received written comments. Furthermore, legal advice should be requested in relation to the specifics relating to Governing Body issues.

Action:

Members to provide written inputs to the answers to the ExCom's questions and issues to the Secretariat by 9 November. The Secretariat to further develop the paper based on the new comments until the next ExCom meeting, still in 2020.

4. Any other business

N/A

5. Closing of the meeting

The Chairperson thanked the ExCom Members for their participation and contribution, as well as the ECA Secretariat for good preparation of background documents and their support throughout the meeting, and closed the meeting.

Annex 1**EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE****38/4 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

26 October 2020

14.00-16.00 hrs (Rome time)

Online meeting

PARTICIPANTS LIST

	Role	Country/Organization	Name	Present/Absent
1.	ECA Chairperson	Ireland	Mr Paul KIERNAN	Present
2.	ECA 1st Vice-Chairperson	Slovak Republic	Ms Zora WEBEROVA	Present
3.	ECA 2nd Vice-Chairperson	Cyprus	Mr Marios GEORGIADIS	Present
4.	ExCom Member	Albania	Ms Lorena PULLUMBI	Present
5.	ExCom Member	Czechia	Mr Jiří JÍLEK	Present
6.	ExCom Member	Georgia	Ms Ekaterine ZDIADADZE	Present
7.	ExCom Member	Hungary	Ms Lilla EGRI	Absent
8.	ExCom Member	Italy	Ms Graziella ROMITO	Present
9.	ExCom Member	Serbia	Ms Daria JANJIĆ	Absent
10.	Deputy Regional Representative, Secretary of the ERC	FAO REU	Mr Nabil GANGI	Present
11.	Senior Field Programme Officer, ERC Secretariat	FAO REU	Mr Goran STAVRIK	Present
14.	Acting Secretary of ECA	FAO REU	Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK	Present
15.	ERC-ECA Secretariat	FAO REU	Ms Zsafia HORVÁTH	Present

Annex 2**EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE****38/4 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

26 October 2020

14.00-16.00 hrs (Rome time)

Online meeting

AGENDA

No.	Agenda Item Title	Document No./Link	Presenter
	Opening of the meeting	-	KIERNAN
1.	Adoption of the agenda	ECA_ExCom/38/4-1	PARTICIPANTS
2.	Update on the status of preparations for the 32nd Regional Conference for Europe	-	GANGI / STAVRIK
3.	Roles and responsibilities of the ExCom in relation to ECA and ERC	ECA_ExCom/38/4-3	WLODARCZYK
4.	Any other business	-	PARTICIPANTS
	Close of the meeting	-	KIERNAN