



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Thirty-ninth Session
Rome, Italy, 15-20 October 2012
Agenda Item: III.b
POLICY ROUNDTABLE: FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Matters to be brought to the attention of the Committee

1. The Committee expresses its appreciation for the work of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Climate Change and for the relevant report.
2. Taking into account the urgent need for actions to address the effects of climate change on food security in a coherent manner the Committee invites Member States (MS), International Organizations (IO) and other CFS stakeholders, as appropriate:
 - a) To integrate food security and climate change concerns and to increase resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems to climate change, including through:
 - Increasing investment for enhancing food security in the face of climate change threats, in particular for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, water management and soil conservation;
 - Designing policies and programs related to climate change to enhance food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries, the consideration of the rights of indigenous peoples and the right to food; (MS, IO);
 - Developing national and local capacities to deal with food security-related climate change challenges, including improving extension services, supporting farmers' networks and making weather forecasting available to small-scale food producers and pastoralists; (MS, IO);
 - Conducting regular assessments of risks and vulnerability, including consideration of gender and nutrition-sensitive perspectives, and improving early warning systems (MS, IO);

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- Developing integrated land-use policies for food security and climate change adaptation and mitigation, in accordance with nationally defined priorities; (MS);
 - Integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in food security policies and programmes (MS, IO);
 - Implementing the actions proposed in National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), and supporting the integration of agriculture and food security in national climate change adaptation planning, including through the provision of new and additional funding (MS, IO);
 - Implementing FAO-Adapt, as appropriate, to strengthen support to countries' efforts toward climate change adaptation.
- b) To create conditions to facilitate broader access to, and the use of, genetic resources in particular by:
- Ratifying and implementing the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (MS), as appropriate, including the development of a programme of in situ conservation on farms and in the wild, and information management systems to facilitate access to, and use of, genetic diversity (MS, IO);
 - Inviting the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to continue and strengthen its work on climate change and genetic resources including conservation and use of genetic resources for adaptation to climate change (MS);
 - Inviting the HLPE to consider in its future plan of work the topic of genetic resources and food security, covering among others, climate change adaptation, physical systems and commercial and legal issues;
- c) To develop agricultural strategies that take into account the need to respond to climate change and to safeguard food security, including by:
- Supporting farmers in adopting sustainable use of land, including reduction of land use change, taking into account the country and region specific needs, priorities and contexts;
 - Supporting farmers to adopt farming and grazing practices to prevent land degradation and loss of soil carbon, to increase the efficiency of nitrogen use, improve livestock productivity and the use of manure, improve water management, especially in rice production, and to increase the use of agro-forestry;
 - Providing assessments and developing options for alternative agricultural development strategies, taking into account differences between agricultural systems and regional and local conditions (FAO and IFAD in partnership with research institutions and initiatives such as the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases);
 - Promoting responsible consumption, efficiencies in the food chain and the reduction of post-harvest losses and food waste (MS, in partnership with private sector and civil society).
- d) To enhance research and improve information collection and sharing by:
- Increasing public investment for research on climate change adaptation and mitigation to ensure its alignment with sustainable development and food security and nutrition objectives;
 - Fostering exchanges of information between global research programs on climate change and food security (MS, IO). In this regard, request the HLPE to initiate a dialogue with relevant institutions and to report back to CFS to help members prioritize future actions;
 - Collecting more biophysical data, monitoring existing practices, performance and impact and organizing regional and sub-regional exchanges of views, sharing of experiences, cooperation and coordination on trans-boundary issues (IO). In this regard, request FAO to facilitate a dialogue with relevant institutions on a mechanism

for improved global collection and sharing of data on climate change and food security and to report back to CFS.

- e) To facilitate participation of all stakeholders in decision making and implementation of food security policies and programmes to address climate change by:
 - o Encouraging multi-stakeholder fora at local, national and regional levels to ensure that local communities and the most vulnerable groups, as well as the private sector, are fully involved in decision-making processes to design, implement, monitor and evaluate climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, policies and programmes, and their impact on food security;
 - o Supporting CSO, notably those representing the most hunger-affected populations, small-scale producer's organizations, and women farmers' organizations, to fully and actively participate in decision making and the implementation of food security policies and programmes to address climate change.
- f) Supports more explicit recognition of food security and the right to food within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) activities, in the context of the objectives, principles and provisions of that convention, by:
 - o Inviting FAO to collaborate with the UNFCCC Secretariat in order to organize a workshop open to all Members and Participants of CFS to facilitate exchange of information and strengthen policy dialogue;
 - o Inviting the Secretariat of CFS to transmit for information the HLPE report¹ on Food Security and Climate Change to the IPCC and to the UNFCCC Secretariat and to communicate the present document to the UNFCCC Secretariat for consideration as appropriate.
- g) Requests the CFS Open Ended Working Group on Monitoring to identify effective ways to monitor the progress in the implementation of the above recommendations.

¹ The views expressed in the report do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Committee on World Food Security, of its members, participants, or of the Secretariat.