



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: Second session of the Sub-Committee on Livestock of FAO's Committee
on Agriculture (Rome, 16-18 July 2024)
– *Information from the Presidency and the Commission*

Delegations will find in the Annex a note from the Presidency and the Commission on the above mentioned subject which will be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council meeting ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 23 September 2024.

Second session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture's Sub-Committee on Livestock**16 to 18 July 2024**

The FAO Committee on Agriculture's Sub-Committee on Livestock held its second session from 16 to 18 July 2024 in hybrid format, attended by over one hundred delegations, as well as observers from four UN agencies, five intergovernmental organisations and 19 non-governmental organisations. FAO Director General QU Dongyu delivered the opening statement by video message.

During the meeting, participants discussed various agenda items related to the three main thematic areas of the Sub-Committee's work programme for the period 2022-2025:

- Sustainable livestock systems for food security, nutrition and inclusive economic growth
- Animal, public and environmental health through the One Health approach
- Natural resource use, climate change and biodiversity

The Hungarian Presidency, in close cooperation with the outgoing Belgian Presidency and the European Commission, prepared the meeting in the framework of the Council's Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (FAO) and expressed, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, common positions on ten of the meeting agenda items.

The report of the Sub-Committee meeting¹ contains a series of detailed recommendations on the above thematic areas, which will be discussed by the FAO Committee on Agriculture at its upcoming 29th session (end of September) and subsequently by the FAO Council at its December session. These recommendations concern *inter alia*:

- developing voluntary guidelines for sustainably enhancing the productivity of small-scale livestock producers;
- advancing One Health and monitoring and addressing biosecurity risks in the livestock sector, including through strengthening the capacities of national animal health systems;

¹ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/np996en>

- the development of climate change mitigation and adaptation plans and policies, and access to climate finance, for the livestock sector;
- an integrated approach to addressing the links between livestock production and sustainable natural resources management (soil, land and water);
- enhancing the interconnection of sustainable agriculture and forest management through silvopastoralism.

The Subcommittee also called on FAO to develop, in consultation with its members, a ‘Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Livestock Transformation’ covering all livestock production systems and aimed at promoting environmentally sustainable, socially responsible and economically viable best practices in livestock production.

Mr Dónal Coleman of Ireland was elected as the new Chairperson of the Sub-Committee.
