



Raad van de
Europese Unie

Brussel, 18 maart 2022
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FAO 8
AGRI 103
DEVGEN 50
RELEX 369
FOOD 18
SUSTDEV 61
CONUN 65

NOTA

van:	het secretariaat-generaal van de Raad
aan:	het Comité van permanente vertegenwoordigers/de Raad
Betreft:	Ontwerpbrief waarbij de directeur-generaal van de FAO wordt verzocht om een speciale spoedzitting van de Raad van de FAO bijeen te roepen

18 maart 2022

Zijne Excellentie de heer Qu Dongyu
Directeur-generaal
Voedsel- en Landbouworganisatie
van de Verenigde Naties
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome

De geachte heer Hans Hoogeveen
Onafhankelijk voorzitter van de Raad
Voedsel- en Landbouworganisatie
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Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
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Geachte directeur-generaal, geachte onafhankelijk voorzitter van de Raad

Wij, ondergetekende leden van de Raad van de FAO, in totaal een groep van ## leden, verzoeken overeenkomstig artikel XXV, lid 1, van het Algemeen Reglement van de FAO dat dringend een speciale zitting van één dag van de Raad van de FAO wordt bijeengeroepen, met één hoofdpunt op de agenda: de gevolgen van de agressie van de Russische Federatie tegen Oekraïne voor de mondiale voedselzekerheid en landbouw.

Wij verzoeken tevens om het voorstel in bijlage dezes, dat een toelichting en een ontwerpbesluit bevat, samen met de voorlopige agenda van de speciale spoedzitting als documentatie te verspreiden, onder het hierboven voorgestelde punt.

Op 14 maart heeft VN-secretaris-generaal Antonio Guterres ertoe opgeroepen de oorlog onmiddellijk te beëindigen, "om een orkaan van hongersnood en de totale ineenstorting van het wereldwijde voedselsysteem te vermijden". Hij gaf aan dat miljoenen mensen in Oekraïne "geconfronteerd worden met hongersnood en slinkende voorraden van water en geneesmiddelen" en dat de VN – waaronder de FAO en de agentschappen in Rome – in ijltempo basisvoedsel, geld en essentiële hulpgoederen naar het land brengen, maar voegde er ook aan toe dat "deze oorlog veel verder gaat dan Oekraïne. De oorlog is ook een aanslag op de meest kwetsbare mensen en landen in de wereld... Hun broodmand wordt momenteel gebombardeerd... De prijzen voor voedsel, brandstof en meststoffen schieten de hoogte in, de toeleveringsketens worden verstoord... Dit alles treft de armste mensen het hardst."

De FAO is het leidende VN-agentschap voor wereldwijde voedselzekerheid en landbouw, zoals de secretaris-generaal heeft onderstreept. Zoals de FAO goed weet van haar inspanningen voor een betere wederopbouw en van haar hulp aan de leden bij het herstel na de COVID-19-pandemie, kampten de ontwikkelingslanden al vóór deze oorlog met een recordinflatie van de voedselprijzen en met andere problemen als gevolg van conflicten en klimaatverandering. In de analyse van de FAO van 11 maart (*Information Note: The Importance of Ukraine and the Russian Federation for Global Agricultural Markets and the Risks Associated with the Current Conflict*) komt de grote impact van de crisis op de Oekraïense en de Russische landbouw, de grondstoffenmarkt en andere inputmarkten aan bod, en de explosief stijgende wereldwijde voedselprijzen ondermijnen de voedselzekerheid van miljoenen mensen in tientallen landen.

Deze speciale zitting is dan ook noodzakelijk om ervoor te zorgen dat de Raad, krachtens zijn taken uit hoofde van artikel XXIV, lid 1, punt b), van het Algemeen Reglement van de FAO, advies kan uitbrengen over alle kwesties die verband houden met de voedsel- en landbouwsituatie in de wereld, in het bijzonder over dringende kwesties die een optreden vereisen van de Conferentie, de Regionale Conferenties, de in artikel V, lid 6, van het Statuut bedoelde comités of de directeur-generaal.

Wij vragen dat deze speciale zitting van de Raad uiterlijk op 8 april wordt bijeengeroepen, met inachtneming van de minimale kennisgevingstermijn van twee weken.

Hoogachtend,

Bijlagen.

Cc: Kabinetschef Godfrey Magwenzi
Secretaris-generaal Rakesh Mukhtoo

Provisional Agenda

Special FAO Council

1. Implications on World Food Security and Agriculture arising from the Aggression by the Russian Federation Against Ukraine

Annex

[#]th Emergency Special Session of the FAO Council

[Rome, XX April 2022]

Proposal of Actions by FAO in Relation to the Implications on World Food Security and Agriculture Arising from the Aggression by the Russian Federation Against Ukraine.

Executive Summary / Explanatory Memorandum

As noted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution adopted on 2 March 2022 at its 11th emergency special session, the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine is having an impact on increased food insecurity globally, as Ukraine and the region are one of the world's most important areas for grain and agricultural exports, when millions of people are facing famine, the immediate risk of famine, or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several

regions of the world.

Ukraine is the fifth largest wheat exporter in the world, with a global market share of 10 percent between the periods of 2016/17 and 2020/21. Ukraine's maize export share over the same period was even more significant, averaging 15 percent and conferring it the spot of the world's fourth largest maize exporter.

The conflict is having a major impact on member states – especially developing countries - in North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East, specifically, which import large quantities of food from Ukraine and the region.

The Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine will thus negatively affect the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of reaching Zero Hunger by 2030, for which FAO is the custodial lead agency, as well as negatively affect other SDGs for which FAO is a custodian or contributing agency.

The UN Secretary General has called on the international community to “do everything possible to avert a hurricane of hunger and a meltdown of the global food system.” He also stressed that the war is hitting the poorest the hardest around the globe.

Urgent and decisive action by the FAO is therefore needed.

Across the UN system, the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the Human Rights Council and other specialized agencies, such as UNESCO, IAEA,

IMO, ITU, ICAO and UNWTO, have held or are holding special, emergency or dedicated sessions of their Governing Bodies to consider the matter. Other international or regional organizations (*inter alia* OSCE, OECD, Council of the Baltic Sea States, African Union) have reacted as a matter of urgency.

Suggested action by Council

The Council is invited to adopt the following decision:

“The Council,

Endorsed and reaffirmed the Resolution adopted on 2 March 2022 by the United Nations General Assembly at its 11th emergency special session (A/RES/ES-11/1);

Expressed the gravest concern about the impact of the conflict on increased food insecurity globally, as Ukraine, the Russian Federation, and the region are one of the world’s most important areas for grain, oilseed, and other agriculture exports, when millions of people are already facing hunger or the immediate risk of hunger or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world;

Affirmed that the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, [enabled by Belarus], is in violation of the objectives and purposes of the Organization as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution and of the obligations accepted by the Russian Federation [and Belarus] as Member[s] of the Organization;

Demanded that the Russian Federation immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine, including the targeting of Ukraine's food supply, infrastructure, distribution, and food and agricultural product storage facilities, and refrain from further aggravating the world food security and agriculture situation;

Stressed the role of FAO, in coordination with other United Nations entities and relevant bodies, to address within its mandate the consequences of the conflict within Ukraine and on world food and agriculture security;

Instructed the Director-General to leverage FAO's role as a knowledge institution to closely monitor the implications on world food security and agriculture, including through the regular analysis and provision of data to members on food prices, fertilizer and other input prices, commodity markets, supply chain matters arising from the conflict, including coordinating as appropriate with other Rome-based agencies, International Financial Institutions, and agriculture and food research institutions such as the International Food Policy Research Institute,

Requested the Director-General to review and make recommendations including on the conflict's implications for FAO's implementation of its Strategic Framework (2022-2031) and Programme of Work and Budget (2022-2023), as well as develop policy advice for FAO members most impacted to establish or enhance national preparedness and response plans, [coordinated through the UN Food Systems Summit Hub].

Requested FAO to collaborate with the G20 to enhance the Agricultural Market Information System;

Requested the Organization to organize monthly briefings open to all Members with a specific focus on the implications of the conflict on the food security of specific regions at each briefing and report to the Council on the above-mentioned topics in this regard;

Decided to add at its next regular session in June 2022 an agenda item on “The effect of the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, on food insecurity globally, in particular the effects for the most vulnerable” and requested the Director-General to submit as a matter of urgency a report containing:

- an overview of the work of FAO in Ukraine, within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters,
- an immediate response plan to address to the most pressing food security needs of the Ukrainian population, including how to preserve ongoing and upcoming planting and harvest seasons in Ukraine and any means to protect and preserve the transport and export of existing food and agricultural exports from Ukraine, and a medium-term recovery assistance plan designed to restore Ukraine’s agriculture potential when the aggression has ceased and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine is restored,
- an immediate response plan to evaluate the effects of the crisis and bring assistance to the developing countries most affected by the disruption in food supplies and soaring of food prices resulting from the conflict, and
- a longer-term plan, consistent with the Strategic Framework (2022-2031), for building resilience to global shocks into food systems.