



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

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**WK 4555/2026 INIT**

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#### **WORKING DOCUMENT**

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From: Presidency  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (FAO) on 27  
March 2026: Presidency Flash

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Delegations will find in the annex the Presidency Flash for the meeting of the Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (FAO), scheduled for 27 March 2026.

PUBLIC



24 March 2026

**Presidency Flash  
Working Party on International Food and  
Agricultural Questions (FAO)**

Dear Colleagues,

The Cyprus Presidency is looking forward to welcoming you to the first formal meeting of the Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (FAO) on 27 March 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

## 1. Developments and outlook at FAO

The Head of the EU Delegation in Rome will debrief delegations on recent developments at FAO and share his outlook. Thereafter, delegations will have the opportunity to express their views.

## 2. FAO review process

The Presidency will debrief delegations on the state of play of the review process, in particular as regards discussions at the Open-Ended Working Groups A and B. The Working Party will then be invited to exchange views on the core messages of the draft EU written contributions, on:

- 'Governance roles coherence among Governing Bodies, including the Council efficiency and effectiveness, as well as the Council composition and geographic representation' for the meeting of Working Group A scheduled for 9 April (deadline for written contributions: 31 March)
- 'Risk management, Internal controls and Administrative processes' for the meeting of Working Group B scheduled for 28 April (deadline for written Contributions: 17 April)
- 'Strengthening oversight functions (OED, OIG) and role and autonomy of the ICC, Procedural gaps and rule-based decision-making' for the meeting of Working Group A scheduled for 4 May (deadline for written contributions: 20 April)

## 3. 35th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC35) (Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 11-15 May 2026)

The Presidency will provide information on the preparation of the upcoming 35<sup>th</sup> session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC35, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 11-15 May 2026), including as regards the preparation of the first drafts of the EU key messages/statements for the various agenda items (see the usual 'call for volunteers' set out in WK4503/20026). The Presidency will also seek delegations' preliminary views and expectations on the most important topics on the ERC35 agenda (including agenda item 14), and will invite delegations to share information about their intended level of participation in the ERC session.

#### **4. 3rd session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock (Rome, 3–5 March 2026)**

The Presidency will share its assessment of the outcomes of the session and the Global Plan of Action and will inform about the next steps ahead of the 4<sup>th</sup> session (scheduled for 3–5 June). Thereafter, delegations will be invited to share their views.

#### **5. Committee on World Food Security (CFS): workstream on building resilient food systems**

The EU Focal Point will inform the Working Party on the status of the zero draft of the CFS Policy recommendations on Building Resilient Food Systems. Delegations will have the opportunity to share their views.

#### **6. Outcome of the 124th session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 16–18 March 2026)**

The Presidency will invite the EU Member States' representatives in the CCLM to provide information on the outcome of the 124th session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (16–18 March 2026)

#### **7. Global Conference on One Health in Agrifood Systems (Rome, 21–23 September 2026)**

The Presidency will present the discussion paper distributed with reference WK 4506/2026 and will provide further explanations as regards, in particular, the objective and the approach underpinning the intended Council conclusions. Thereafter delegations will be invited to share their preliminary views.

#### **8. AOB**

8.1 The Presidency will debrief the Working Party on the outcomes of the Informal lunch discussion held in the margins of the AGRIFISH Council on 23 February.

8.2 The Commission will inform the Working Party on the Global Partnership Programme for Transboundary Animal Diseases (GPP-TAD)

AgriFAO Cyprus TEAM

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