

28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members – Original language

Item 3.5 Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030

| <b>Member name</b>  | <b>Comments</b>  |
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| <p><b>Australia</b><br/>Friday, July 1, 2022,<br/>5:00 PM</p>                               | <p>Australia supports the intent of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the FAO’s focus on restoration of agricultural lands. Australia has many programs in place that support restoration activities on both private and public lands including our Indigenous Protected Areas program, National Reserve System and National Landcare Programmes. Australia submitted the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program (RRAP) in April 2022 for consideration as a potential UN Decade Flagship Initiative. We look forward to hearing if our proposal has been accepted. Australia supports the recommendations put forward in this paper and would gratefully receive further information on the actions underway globally to promote the UN Decade, advance ecosystem restoration and combat land degradation, including how countries are measuring and monitoring improvement.</p>  |
| <p><b>European Union and its 27 Member States</b><br/>Friday, July 1, 2022<br/>06:36 PM</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am honoured to write to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States regarding the abovementioned agenda item for the 28th session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture.</li> <li>2. The EU and its Member States thank FAO for the information provided in document COAG/2022/17. We welcome the active role that FAO, together with UNEP, has taken in initiating and coordinating, within their respective mandates, actions aimed at implementing the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. These actions can make a critical contribution to multilateral solutions that focus on building a more sustainable, inclusive, just, equal and resilient world with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change as our roadmap. Ecosystems such as peatlands, wetlands, oceans and forests can – if in good condition – remove and store large amounts of carbon dioxide and contribute significantly to reducing the impact of climate change.</li> <li>3. We underline the continued importance of ensuring due involvement of the membership. In this regard, we appreciate the ‘Flagship Initiatives’ approach, whereby proposals for action at national and regional level put forward by FAO and UNEP members can be supported directly through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund of the UN Decade.</li> <li>4. We note the information provided on the integration of FAO’s work on restoring productive ecosystems into the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31. We agree that this work can make a significant cross-cutting contribution to advancing FAO’s work within several Programme Priority Areas. In this regard, it is essential to ensure an appropriate balance between the economic, social and ecological dimensions of food systems. We would also stress the need for taking into consideration ecosystem services as part of nature-based solutions to climate adaptation, in particular those associated with sustainable agriculture, forest resilience, biodiversity and the water cycle. Furthermore, particular attention needs to be paid to reducing soil degradation and enhancing soil health as</li> </ol> |

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|  | <p>well as promoting sustainable and integrated water resources management. We also stress the need to pay due attention to addressing the challenges related to marine and coastal ecosystems.</p> <p>5. We note the development by FAO in 2021 of a strategy to define the scope of FAO actions aimed at ecosystem restoration and we look forward to the action plan for the implementation of that Strategy. In this regard, we appreciate that the document underlines the importance of ensuring due alignment and synergies with, in particular, the actions aimed at implementing FAO’s Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and the recently adopted FAO Strategies on Climate Change and on Science and Innovation.</p> <p>6. In conclusion, we call for continued leadership and strong commitment from FAO to take work forward on the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and we reiterate the continued commitment of the EU and its Member States to support global efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide.</p> |
| <p><b>The People's Republic of China</b><br/>Friday, July 1, 2022<br/>06:53 PM</p> | <p>中方支持“联合国生态系统恢复十年”倡议，相信推动落实该倡议将有助于加强国际合作，更好地维护生态系统平衡，促进各国农林业可持续发展，助力联合国可持续发展目标实现。</p> <p>近年来，中国加强生态文明建设，持续推动生态系统恢复，农业生态系统明显好转，可持续生产能力逐步提升。一是强化理念引领。中国政府加速生态保护主流化，包括将生态文明理念和生态文明建设写入宪法，纳入中国特色社会主义总体布局 and “十四五”系列规划。二是加强综合施策。通过出台法律法规，保护长江水生生物资源、保护黑土地资源，制定生态系统保护重大工程和农业绿色发展规划，促进农业生产所需环境和自然资源保护。三是推进绿色低碳发展。中国注重资源节约，推动农业绿色发展，实现化肥、农药等农业投入品的减量增效，农业秸秆等废弃物实现有效回收利用。四是加强合作交流。中国签署和批准了多项多边环境协定，倡议成立“一带一路”绿色发展国际联盟，承诺实现“双碳”目标等，为全球生态系统恢复贡献中国方案。同时，作为《生物多样性公约》第15次缔约方大会（COP15）主席国，中方致力于推动达成既具雄心又平衡务实的“2020年后全球生物多样性框架”，形成更加公正合理、各尽所能的生物多样性治理体系。</p>  |
| <p><b>Chile</b><br/>Friday, July 1, 2022<br/>09:18 PM</p>                          | <p>Sobre este particular, la Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas mediante la resolución A/RES/73/284, de 1 de marzo de 2019, proclamó el período 2021-2030 el “Decenio de las Naciones Unidas sobre la Restauración de los Ecosistemas”, con el objeto de apoyar y ampliar los esfuerzos encaminados a prevenir, detener e invertir la degradación de los ecosistemas en todo el mundo y concienciar sobre la importancia del éxito de la restauración de los ecosistemas.</p> <p>Chile ha hecho suyo el llamado de a movilizar los recursos y las capacidades técnicas pertinentes para prevenir, detener y revertir la degradación de los ecosistemas en aras de una mejor producción, una mejor nutrición, un mejor medio ambiente y una vida mejor para todos.</p> <p>Quisiéramos destacar los planes y estrategias en curso:</p>  |

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|  | <p>Estrategia Nacional de Cambio Climático y Recursos Vegetacionales 2017-2025<br/> Estrategia Climática de Largo Plazo<br/> Hoja de Ruta para un Chile Circular al 2040<br/> Contribución Nacional Determinada (NDC)<br/> Plan Nacional de Adaptación al Cambio Climático<br/> Plan Sectorial de Adaptación al Cambio Climático para la Biodiversidad<br/> Estrategia de Sustentabilidad Agroalimentaria<br/> Plan nacional de restauración a escala de paisaje</p>   |
| <p><b>United States of America</b><br/> Friday, July 1, 2022<br/> 10:30 PM</p> | <p>The United States thanks the Secretariat for providing this update. The United States agrees the FAO has relevant technical expertise, operational capacities and frameworks in place to support Members in their restoration efforts and in scaling up and showcasing practical solutions. The United States welcomes the approach of promoting ecological restoration through Flagship Initiatives and is pleased that the selection process will prioritize a “diversity of ecosystems and balance at global scale.” The United States recognizes the importance of ecosystem restoration and has for decades been funding these types of activities, for example, through the USDA’s Natural Resource Conservation Service and Forest Service. We concur with FAO’s assessment that ecosystem restoration activities offer potential for climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as resilience building, and see a natural fit for these activities within the scope of FAO’s Strategy on Climate Change.</p> |