

Decision -/CP.27

Joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 2 of the Convention,

Also recalling decision 2/CP.17, paragraphs 75–77,

Further recalling decision 4/CP.23,

Recognizing the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change,

Also recognizing that the impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and other global challenges has exposed the limited resilience of global food systems to the adverse impacts of climate change and the limited progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring food security,

Acknowledging that the increasing frequency of extreme weather events has exposed millions of people, especially small-scale farmers, those from low-income households, indigenous peoples, women and youth in developing countries, to acute food and water insecurity and that, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, more than 800 million people face hunger every year,¹ a figure set to increase as a consequence of climate change,

Highlighting that farmers, including smallholders and pastoralists, are stewards of the land and are inclined to apply sustainable land management approaches, and *acknowledging* that their vulnerability to climate change presents a challenge in fulfilling this important role and that policy responses in agriculture are more likely to succeed if they consider the role of farmers as key agents of change,

Also highlighting that each food production system has its own challenges and that solutions must be context-specific and take into account national circumstances, especially if they are to be scaled up,

1. *Welcomes* the progress of and outcomes achieved by the subsidiary bodies in jointly addressing issues related to agriculture² and the Koronivia road map;³
2. *Takes note* of the following recommendations on the different workshop reports under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture identified and agreed in conclusions of the subsidiary

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund, World Food Programme and World Health Organization. 2022. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Available at <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0639en>.

² Pursuant to decision 4/CP.23, para. 1.

³ Contained in annex I to documents FCCC/SBI/2018/9 and FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4.

bodies,⁴ recognizing that related policies and their implementation are context-specific and take into account national circumstances:

(a) Recognized that information provided during the workshops and in the workshop reports⁵ and other information provides a mapping of activities and mandates of UNFCCC constituted bodies;

(b) Encouraged the continued involvement of constituted bodies and financing entities in the Koronivia joint work on agriculture, highlighting the potential for creating interlinkages that lead to enhanced action and improvements in implementation;

(c) Recognized that some modalities for implementation already exist and invited Parties to scale up implementation;

(d) Also recognized the importance of the continued involvement of scientific and technical knowledge in transforming the agriculture sector, enabling conditions, the crucial role of farmers, youth, local communities and indigenous peoples, including gender considerations, and of meeting the needs of farmers and food systems;

(e) Welcomed the presentation made by the Green Climate Fund on its work on issues relating to agriculture, and welcomed the subsequent clarification by the secretariat of the process for Parties to submit their views to the Standing Committee on Finance, in line with existing procedures, on elements to be taken into account in developing guidance for the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism;

(f) Recognized that various tools are available for assessing and monitoring adaptation and its co-benefits, but existing tools could benefit from further adjustment and new tools could be developed for country-specific circumstances, while taking into consideration the importance of sharing best practices among countries and other stakeholders and the important role of science, technology and capacity-building in facilitating data collection and adaptation assessment;

(g) Also recognized that issues relating to soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility, as well as sustainable soil and integrated water management, are context-specific and, taking into account countries' circumstances, should be dealt with in a holistic and inclusive manner to realize the full potential of increased productivity in contributing to food security, adaptation and adaptation co-benefits as well as enhancing carbon sinks;

(h) Further recognized that soil and nutrient management practices and the optimal use of nutrients, including organic fertilizer and enhanced manure management, lie at the core of climate-resilient, sustainable food production systems and can contribute to global food security;

(i) Recognized that livestock management systems are very vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and that sustainably managed livestock systems have high adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change while playing broad roles in safeguarding food and nutrition security, livelihoods, sustainability, nutrient cycling and carbon management;

(j) Noted that improving sustainable production and animal health, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the livestock sector while enhancing sinks on pasture

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2019/9, para. 44, FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 42, FCCC/SBI/2019/20, paras. 28–29, FCCC/SBSTA/2019/5, paras. 16–17, FCCC/SBI/2021/16, para. 46–49, FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, paras. 47–50, FCCC/SBI/2022/10, paras. 56–57, and FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, paras. 27–28.

⁵ FCCC/SB/2019/INF.1, FCCC/SB/2019/1, FCCC/SB/2019/2, FCCC/SB/2020/1, FCCC/SB/2021/1, FCCC/SB/2021/2, and FCCC/SB/2021/3 and Add.1.

and grazing land, can contribute to achieving long-term climate objectives, taking into account different systems and national circumstances;

(k) Recognized that socioeconomic and food security dimensions are critical when dealing with climate change in agriculture and food systems;

(l) Also recognized the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger by designing sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural systems, applying a systemic approach in line with the long-term global climate objectives, further recognizing the importance of long-term investment in agriculture focused on this objective;

(m) Noted the importance of scaling up support to enhance action on safeguarding food and nutrition security and ending hunger, aiming for inclusive, sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural systems, taking into consideration the vulnerability of agriculture to the impacts of climate change;

(n) Recognized the need to improve the enabling environment for mobilizing resources for implementing action at the local, national and international level;

(o) Noted the importance of considering sustainable land and water management for agriculture in a systemic and integrated manner informed by scientific, local and indigenous knowledge implemented in a participatory and inclusive manner and taking into consideration regional, national and local circumstances to deliver a range of multiple benefits, where applicable, such as adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and mitigation, to ensure food security and nutrition;

(p) Highlighted 'no regrets' options, such as those mentioned in the workshop reports and avoiding maladaptation;

(q) Noted that implementing sustainable approaches can render multiple benefits for society, such as improved water quality, higher biodiversity and increased soil organic matter, and also noted the value of incorporating diversification, recycling and efficiency, and supporting synergies within agricultural systems;

(r) Recognized the importance of increased access to international resources, such as finance, capacity-building and technology development and transfer, from a variety of sources to implement these approaches;

(s) Recognized the need to scale up the implementation of best practices, innovations and technologies that increase resilience and sustainable production in agricultural systems according to national circumstances in an inclusive and participatory way that includes farmers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, local and vulnerable communities, women and youth and is informed by scientific, local, and indigenous knowledge;

(t) Noted that many approaches with high potential for adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and mitigation relate to land and food systems, such as conserving and restoring ecosystems, improving sustainability of agricultural practices and reducing food loss and waste from sustainable food systems, and have significant positive direct and indirect links with biodiversity and ecosystem services, food security and the Sustainable Development Goals;

(u) Recognized that scaling up implementation requires enhanced knowledge-sharing on best practices, access to finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building;

(v) Recognized that innovative policy and social approaches to scaling up, such as institutional arrangements, partnerships and farmers' empowerment, can incentivize implementation and support an enabling environment for scaling up best practices;

(w) Noted that successful policy innovations can include extension services and farmers' self-organization;

3. *Recognizes* that workshops under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture provide useful information on the latest agricultural research, national circumstances, the realities faced by farmers, challenges and opportunities relating to agricultural research and development, and ways of mobilizing climate action in the area of agriculture and food security, and have thus been crucial for building a common understanding of relevant challenges and opportunities;

4. *Recalls* that the Koronivia road map, workshops under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture and reports thereon, as well as the conclusions of the subsidiary bodies on those reports, have improved awareness of and knowledge on the impacts of climate change on agriculture, helped to focus the work of institutions, organizations and stakeholders working on matters of agriculture and climate change and led to new activities and initiatives in this area;

5. *Welcomes* the participation of representatives of constituted bodies, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism,⁶ the Adaptation Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund and observer organizations in workshops under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture;

6. *Acknowledges* that the Koronivia joint work on agriculture has highlighted the need to identify modalities for addressing challenges in and exploring opportunities for accessing existing means of implementation;

7. *Also acknowledges* the need to strengthen work under relevant institutional arrangements under the Convention in order to consolidate and advance work on addressing issues related to agriculture;

8. *Further acknowledges* that the Koronivia joint work on agriculture has highlighted the need for enhanced climate action on agriculture and food security, and for enhanced coordination with and among actors outside the UNFCCC;

9. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to scale up action and support with regard to capacity-building, access to finance, and technology development and transfer with a view to enhancing the adaptive capacity and resilience and reducing the vulnerability of farmers and other vulnerable groups, especially small-scale farmers, women and youth, in relation to climate change;

10. *Urges* Parties, relevant organizations and other groups to increase their efforts in relation to promoting sustainable agriculture, including by strengthening the role of indigenous peoples and local communities, and particularly women and youth, with a view to eradicating hunger and poverty while ensuring food security;

11. *Underscores* the importance of constituted bodies and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism taking into account the conclusions of the subsidiary bodies referred to in paragraph 2 above in implementing their actions and workplans, according to their mandates;

12. *Invites* Parties to consider policies, actions and measures relevant to implementing the conclusions referred to in paragraph 2 above;

13. *Also invites* the current and future Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties, high-level champions and other actors, when promoting climate initiatives, to take into account the conclusions referred to in paragraph 2 above in considering issues related to

⁶ The Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund.

agriculture, and to promote the sharing of information and knowledge on best practices and means of implementation;

14. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to establish the four-year Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security, including implementation of the outcomes of the Koronivia joint work on agriculture and previous activities addressing issues related to agriculture,⁷ as well as future topics, recognizing that solutions are context-specific and take into account national circumstances, with the following objectives:

(a) Promoting a holistic approach to addressing issues related to agriculture and food security, taking into consideration regional, national and local circumstances, in order to deliver a range of multiple benefits, where applicable, such as adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and mitigation, recognizing that adaptation is a priority for vulnerable groups, including women, indigenous peoples and small-scale farmers;

(b) Enhancing coherence, synergies, coordination, communication and interaction between Parties, constituted bodies and workstreams, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the Adaptation Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund in order to facilitate the implementation of action to address issues related to agriculture and food security;

(c) Promoting synergies and strengthening engagement, collaboration and partnerships among national, regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as well as under relevant processes and initiatives, in order to enhance the implementation of climate action to address issues related to agriculture and food security;

(d) Providing support and technical advice to Parties, constituted bodies and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on climate action to address issues related to agriculture and food security, respecting the Party-driven approach and in accordance with their respective procedures and mandates;

(e) Enhancing research and development on issues related to agriculture and food security and consolidating and sharing related scientific, technological and other information, knowledge (including local and indigenous knowledge), experience, innovations and best practices;

(f) Evaluating progress in implementing and cooperating on climate action to address issues related to agriculture and food security;

(g) Sharing information and knowledge on developing and implementing national policies, plans and strategies related to climate change, while recognizing country-specific needs and contexts;

15. *Also requests* the secretariat to support the joint work referred to in paragraph 14 above by:

(a) Preparing an annual synthesis report on the work undertaken by constituted bodies and financial and other entities under the Convention, as well as by relevant international organizations, on activities related to the joint work referred to in paragraph 14 above;

(b) Holding in-session workshops in hybrid format, facilitating both virtual and in-person participation, on agreed topics related to agriculture and food security at the first regular sessions of the subsidiary bodies each year and inviting representatives of the

⁷ See documents FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.2, FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.6, FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.7, FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.5 and FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.6.

constituted bodies under the Convention, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the Adaptation Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and observers to them;

16. *Decides* to establish the Sharm el-Sheikh online portal under the joint work referred to in paragraph 14 above for sharing information on projects, initiatives and policies for increasing opportunities for implementation of climate action to address issues related to agriculture and food security;

17. *Invites* Parties and observers to submit by 27 March 2023 via the submission portal⁸ views on the elements of the joint work referred to in paragraphs 14–15 above, including views on topics for the workshops referred to in paragraph 15(b) above, for consideration by the subsidiary bodies at their fifty-eighth sessions (June 2023);

18. *Also invites* Parties and observers to submit by 27 March 2023 via the submission portal views on the operationalization of the portal referred to in paragraph 16 above for consideration by the subsidiary bodies at their fifty-eighth sessions;

19. *Further invites* Parties, United Nations organizations and other relevant institutions, agencies and entities, the research community, the private sector, civil society and farmers organizations, among others and as appropriate, to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and partnerships in relation to the joint work referred to in paragraph 14 above, including with a view to fighting hunger on the ground, addressing in particular the needs of women, children, youth, indigenous peoples, and local communities;

20. *Requests* the subsidiary bodies to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirty-first session (2026) on the progress and outcomes of the joint work referred to in paragraph 14 above;

21. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 15 above;

22. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

⁸ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.