



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

KORONIVIA DIALOGUE

POST DIALOGUE REFLECTIONS

8-9 MARCH 2018 | FAO HEADQUARTERS IN ROME, ITALY



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CONTEXT

The [Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture](#) (4/CP.23) is a landmark decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at its 23rd session. The decision recognizes the vital role of the food security and agricultural sectors in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Furthermore, the decision requests the two subsidiary bodies for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and for Implementation (SBI) to work together on issues related to agriculture, and invites Parties and observers to submit their views on elements to be included in the further joint work.

Referring to decision 4/CP.23 as well as building on the previous informal dialogues in issues relating to agriculture held throughout 2016 and 2017 organized by the World Bank, FAO and Oxford Climate Policy, FAO organized an informal ‘Koronivia Dialogue’ for agriculture negotiators and country representatives on 8-9th March 2018.

OBJECTIVES

Co-facilitated by FAO and Oxford Climate Policy, and supported by the World Bank, the Dialogue aimed to:

- a) Provide a neutral forum for an open discussion among agriculture negotiators towards the implementation of the ‘Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture’, and
- b) Offer support to countries finalizing their submissions and preparing for the upcoming 48th session of the Subsidiary Bodies to the UNFCCC (SB 48).

OUTCOMES

The Dialogue was attended by 48 participants, from developed and developing countries, organisations, permanent missions and the UNFCCC Secretariat and structured into two parallel sessions – ‘Negotiator Seminar’ and ‘Country Action Seminar’. In order to assure a neutral and informal atmosphere, the ‘Negotiator Seminar’ was open only to the agriculture negotiators, whereas the ‘Country Action Seminar’ was open to all country representatives and FAO technical experts.

KEY OUTCOMES OF THE NEGOTIATOR SEMINAR

During the Negotiators Seminar, participants informally shared their views on the decision, sought solutions on how to address six elements mentioned in paragraph two of the decision, and discussed what progress should be achieved before reporting back to the 26th session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC. A number of issues were raised:

- Participants discussed the opportunities to facilitate knowledge management. A number of participants expressed the need for taking stock of existing data, evidence, knowledge and practices and identifying gaps. However, some participants emphasised that the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture ought to go beyond knowledge management.
- Participants discussed the modalities of implementing the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture. Participants elaborated on the need for a ‘*work plan*’ or a ‘*roadmap*’ that would guide SBI and SBSTA on milestones that need to be achieved before reporting back to the Conference of Parties at its twenty-sixth session (November 2020).
- Participants elaborated on the need to formulate concrete submissions that include implementable action points on how the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture should be taken forward.
- Participants discussed the need to explore how other bodies under the Convention, within their terms of reference and mandate may support shaping further activities under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.
- Participants expressed the need to convene similar dialogue at the end of the SB 48 to stocktake all received submissions on the share progress and facilitate further discussion.

KEY OUTCOMES OF THE COUNTRY ACTION SEMINAR

The ‘Country Action Seminar’ aimed to foster dialogue between country representatives, FAO and partner organization experts on existing work streams and potential areas of collaboration or country support under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture. In the course of the seminar, FAO experts presented current activities, data, and tools that can inform further discussions through technical input and knowledge on nutrient use, livestock management and food security and nutrition goals under climate change. Presentations were followed by a plenary discussion amongst participants.

- All participants agreed that agricultural sectors are the most sensitive to climate change impacts and any degree of climate change will bring impact to agricultural production. Furthermore, participants emphasized that urgent action for adaptation to climate change in the agricultural sectors is needed.
- Participants indicated that the collaboration between ministries of environment and other sectoral ministries, including agriculture, should be established, in order to develop coherent policy frameworks for climate action.

- Participants emphasized the importance of climate change action in agriculture to consider the productivity and food security aspect. Few of the potential solutions mentioned by countries included organic production, climate smart practices, globally important agricultural heritage systems, diversification, and low carbon agriculture considering adaptation, mitigation, and productivity.
- Principles to guide Parties' submissions were also addressed. Group discussions concluded with an agreement that key principles should be identified to guide country submission, including policy coherence, the integration of indigenous knowledge as a source of innovation, and the exchange of lessons learned.
- Participants agreed that, while in many cases we already know the methodologies and tools, the enabling environment also needs to be addressed; and in all cases, food security and nutrition must stay at the heart of the interventions. Interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture must also be further assessed.

WAY FORWARD

The Koronivia Dialogue was the first informal discussion between Parties on how to shape the agenda of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture through 2020 and beyond. The success of this informal dialogue means that Parties will have some key tangible topics to bring into official negotiations during the Bonn Climate Change Conference in April/May 2018 and to shape the further work under this joint work on agriculture. In this regard, participants agreed on following:

- To convene a similar informal meeting after SB 48 to share progress and facilitate further discussion.
- To participate analysis of submissions to identify areas of convergence, priorities, and gaps.

Furthermore, during the concluding session the SBSTA Chair, Paul Watkinson, and the SBI Chair, Emmanuel Dlamini, both welcomed the Dialogue that was started during the workshop, recognizing that there is a strong expectation for moving fast and further. In this regard, the submissions will help push the process, to develop a program that builds on what exists and is truly useful to help translate these submissions into actions. In that same line, Tomasz Chruszczow, Special Envoy for Climate Change, High-Level Champion for COP 24, Poland, highlighted the importance of action, building on what exists and to take from lessons learned in the past, in order to achieve a programme that is not only future-oriented but that is well-tested for 2020.

FAO will stay committed in supporting the process, facilitating both the sharing of knowledge and implementation of action. FAO also welcomed the idea of supporting the analysis of the submissions and convening informal dialog in the margins of SB 48.