

Food Systems Stock-taking Moment 2023

Concept Note for Regional Preparatory Meetings

Introduction

As part of the preparations for the first UN Food Systems Stock-Taking Moment (STM) scheduled for July 2023, the **UN Food Systems Coordination Hub** plans to convene a series of five regional preparatory meetings in coordination with the five Regional Commissions, the Regional Offices of the UN Agencies that currently support the Hub, and other appropriate UN and regional bodies.

The regional meetings are organized as senior technical-level workshops and will serve as a platform for the sharing of experiences, good practices, and lessons learned in national efforts to follow-up to the Food Systems Summit including through the operationalization and implementation of National Food Systems Transformation Pathways. Attending National Convenors will be invited to identify priority actions and key messages for the region to be synthesized in the form of a short document in the form of a technical report. The key messages will serve as the regional input for the planning of the 2023 Food Systems Stocktaking Moment.

The Preparatory Meetings build on the regional touch points organized by the Food Systems Coordination Hub for National Convenors between 13 and 17 December 2022, where National Convenors welcomed the STM as an opportunity to intensify the momentum for food systems transformation and to report on the progress made since the 2021 Food Systems Summit.

Dates

These Preparatory Meetings are organized in the margins of the Regional Fora on Sustainable Development (RFSDs) in cooperation with the Regional Commissions, the UN Development Cooperation Office (DCO) and the Regional Offices of the FAO, and other agencies that currently support the Hub, as well as key regional bodies. They are scheduled as follows:

1. Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-9) 27 February to 2 March 2023 – Niamey, Niger (regional preparatory meeting on 27 February)
2. Arab Regional Forum for Sustainable Development 2023 14-16 March 2023 - Beirut, Lebanon (regional preparatory meeting on 13 March)
3. 10th Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2023, 27-31 March 2023 in Bangkok (regional preparatory meeting on 30 March)
4. 2023 UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 29-30 March 2023 - Geneva, Switzerland (regional preparatory meeting on 28 March)
5. Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2023 24-28 April 2023 - Santiago, Chile (regional preparatory meeting TBC)

Structure and Objectives of the Regional Preparatory Meetings

The Regional Preparatory Meetings will be one-day meetings in the margins of the five annual Regional Fora on Sustainable Development. In addition to creating convergence and generating efficiencies, bringing the National Convenors to the regional meetings will have the added-value of exposing them to the latest regional developments regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, allowing them to further interact with the “systems” implications of their mandate and the interconnected nature of food systems transformation and the realization of the SDGs.

Their participation will also allow them to connect and network with a wide range of sustainable development actors present at the regional meetings. The outline of the agenda for the Regional Preparatory meetings is the following:

Session	Description
Opening	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and opening remarks. 2. Objectives of the meeting.
High-level panel	Food systems transformation as SDGs accelerator
Roundtable 1	Reviewing progress on the implementation of national pathways
Roundtable 2	Fast-tracking the transformation of Food systems
Lunch and special event	Financing Food System Transformations
Breakout groups	Facilitated discussion in break-out groups, led by a rapporteur focusing on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expectations from the STM b. Key regional messages to be submitted to the STM
Panel	Interaction with Stakeholders
Closing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consideration of regional messages 2. Next steps towards the STM 3. Closing remarks

The themes of the roundtables could be adapted to the regional needs.