



Statement on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States

171st Session of the Council of the FAO

(5-9 December 2022)

Item 15: Code of Conduct for Voting

Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, The Republic of North Macedonia, San Marino, Türkiye and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.
3. Firstly, we would like to thank the Independent Chair of the Council for holding informal consultations with Members on this important topic, and all Member States for their constructive engagement in these consultations.
4. The EU and its Member States have consistently advocated for a meaningful code of conduct, which brings clarity and transparency to voting procedures.
5. The current draft already contains some essential elements, amongst them the absolute secrecy of the vote, transparent vote counting and a reference to the best practices in the UN. This is a good basis for the way forward.
6. We support the continuation of informal consultations in the coming months, focusing on the outstanding issues, so that this Code of Conduct for Voting can be submitted to the respective FAO Governing Bodies for consideration and recommendation, prior to its subsequent submission to the 43rd Session of the Conference for endorsement.

Thank you, Mr Chair.
