



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

171st Session of the Council of the FAO

(5–9 December 2022)

Draft

Item 2: Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee

Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. We congratulate the Vice-Chairpersons of the Council session and designated Chairperson of the Drafting Committee [*will be specified later*].
3. The EU and its Member States including European Union Member States which are Members of the Council have dissociated themselves from the nomination of the Russian Federation to the Council Drafting Committee.
4. The EU and its Member States wish to reaffirm their strong condemnation of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine and its impact on global food security and nutrition.
5. We must recall the decision by the FAO Council at its 169th session which 'affirmed that the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, with the involvement of Belarus, is in violation of the objectives and purposes of the Organization as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution and of the obligations accepted by the Russian Federation and Belarus as Members of the Organization'.
6. We request this dissociation to be reflected in the report of this session, through a footnote.

Thank you, Mr Chair.
