



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

174th Session of the Council of the FAO

(4-8 December 2023)

Item 16: Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 172nd Session of the Council

Mr Chair,

1. I have the honour to write to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. We thank FAO for updating Member States on the status of implementation of the decisions taken at the 172nd Session of the Council.
3. The European Union and its Member States note with appreciation FAO's efforts to analyze, evaluate and report about **the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on global food security and nutrition**, issue already expressed in item 6 of the agenda.
4. We reiterate the need to renew the political and technical support for the restoration of an initiative similar to the **Black Sea Grain Initiative**, noting its importance to ensuring availability of and access to food for countries in all regions, especially for the most vulnerable populations. The EU remains committed to supporting a multilateral UN-led solution to tackling the global food crisis and calls on FAO to play an active part in discussionsdesigning such an initiative.
5. We request FAO to keep the compilation and use of data as key element to improve the decision-making process to advance in the right to feed, and in the end, the achievement of SDG 2.
6. Finally, we request that FAO keep up its efforts on the issues still ongoing from the mandate of the 172nd FAO Council, so that they can be evaluated in the next cycle of Governing Bodies meetings in the spring of 2024.

Thank you, Mr Chair