



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs,
European Affairs and Development Cooperation

Mr Rein Paulsen

Director
FAO
Office for Emergencies and Resilience
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome
Italy

D5.1/NLA/HUM 04.02.04/2025/06/

Brussels, 24 June 2026

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Government of Belgium, through its Federal Public Service of Foreign Affairs – Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD), has foreseen a contribution of 1.500.000 EUR (one million five hundred thousand euros) for 2026) to the FAO's Special Fund for Emergency and Resilience Activities (SFERA), under "Terms and Conditions of the Contribution" as stated in this letter.

This contribution of 1.500.000 EUR will be paid in a single installment in 2026.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Ministerial Decree awarding 1.500.000 EUR for the year 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Maxime Prévot

Enclosure(s):

- Annex 1 – Ministerial Decree
- Annex 2 – Final harmonized SEAH language July 2021

Terms and Conditions of the Contribution

1. Payment conditions

1.1 The contribution will be paid in one single installment:

The single installment will be paid upon receipt of

- FAO's written acceptance of the terms and conditions described in this letter, to be addressed to SPF Affaires étrangères, Commerce extérieur et Coopération au Développement - DGD (D5, Directorate Humanitarian Aid and Transition) - Rue des Petits Carmes, 15 - 1000 Bruxelles, sent by post or e-mail to D5.1@diplobel.fed.be, and
- A formal claim for the payment of the contribution, to be sent to invoice@diplobel.fed.be,
- FAO's formal claim for payment has to state FAO's bank account for payment, as mentioned under 1.2.

A copy of all documents will also be sent by e-mail to the person in charge of FAO's file in the Humanitarian Aid unit.

1.2 The payment will be done into the following bank account:

Account Name	Food Agr Org – TF EUR
Bank	Citibank 33 Canada Square London, United Kingdom, E14 5LB
IBAN	GB96 CITI 1850 0817 8538 58
SWIFT Code	CITIGB2L

1.3 This letter of the Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Development Cooperation and the written acceptance by FAO of the terms and conditions specified in this letter constitute the specific agreement for the award and use of the subsidy.

2. Use and administration of the contribution

2.1 Funds made available by Belgium shall be used for any of the three components of SFERA, namely: the working capital, the revolving fund and the programme component.

2.2 In cases where contributions are used for the programme component under the "Agriculture Input Rapid Response Capacity" window, proposals shall be formulated in response to an UN Appeal or any equivalent recognized document. For contributions to the "Anticipatory Action" window, proposals shall be formulated on the basis of well-established Early Warnings systems in order to anticipate natural disasters (including climate extreme events), pest and disease outbreaks, and conflicts in protracted crisis situations.

Individual proposals shall enable the organization to reduce emergency caseloads, disaster losses and damages and decrease costs of the emergency response for the food and agriculture sectors. In this respect, FAO does not need an agreement from DGD in Brussels, nor from the Belgian Permanent Representation in Rome, nor from the Belgian Embassy (or Belgian Cooperation Bureau) at the field level. FAO has only to communicate its decision to

the Belgian Permanent Representation in Rome who will in turn inform DGD in Brussels and the Belgian Embassies (or Belgian Cooperation Bureau) at the field level.

- 2.3 The administration of the contribution and procurement of goods and services shall be governed by FAO's Financial Rules and Regulations. Interest income generated from the Belgian contribution, if any, will be automatically allocated to the SFERA fund to be used to support the AIRC and the AA windows. No report will be issued on the use of the interest.
- 2.4 In any case, eligible expenses will only start at the date of signature of the Ministerial decree awarding the funds.
- 2.5 Any modification of the present agreement shall be officially requested to the Director General of the DGD and must receive its written approval.
- 2.6 Special attention shall be provided to the implementation of FAO's gender policy.
- 2.7 The Parties agree to apply the final harmonized SEAH language of July 2021 as annexed to this letter. It is understood that the references to "Donor" in the Annex refer to the Government of Belgium and the references to "Recipient" in the Annex refer to FAO.
- 2.8 FAO commits to inform the DGD in case of credible allegations or substantiated cases of fraud or corruption affecting donor's funds, in line with FAO policies. FAO will also inform DGD on the measures taken by the organization to mitigate and resolve the identified problem(s).
- 2.9 Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the contribution shall be vested in FAO. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by FAO shall be determined in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures of FAO, with no need for any further authorization from DGD.
- 2.10 While this contribution is normally spent within the biennium in which it is allocated, any unspent portion of the grant will remain in SFERA's budget until fully used in accordance with SFERA's regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

3. Justification and reporting

- 3.1 FAO shall record in its accounts the value of the Belgian contribution in US dollars at the market rate of exchange prevailing at the time of receipt of the contribution and shall keep proper financial records in accordance with its financial rules and regulations.
- 3.2 FAO shall prepare for the contributing donors an annual narrative report on the activities funded by the SFERA. The report shall not be specific in respect of the Belgium contribution and will include components that are not funded by Belgium.
- 3.3 Nevertheless the report should indicate how within the different SFERA components, the received Belgian contribution has been split up between the different windows and between beneficiary programmes (country or region).
- 3.4 The Government of Belgium will also be provided with an annual financial situation report for the SFERA and certified by the FAO Finance Division.

4. Visibility

When appropriate, FAO undertakes to guarantee the visibility of the contribution of the Belgian government, which shall be given proper publicity, at the level of the population, the local authorities, other donors, as well as at the level of the media. In its reports, and whenever possible towards the beneficiaries, FAO shall indicate that the contribution to SFERA has been made by the "Belgian government".

5. Interpretation and dispute

- 5.1 Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted as a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of FAO.
- 5.2 Any dispute concerning the interpretation or implementation of the contribution shall be settled by negotiation or by any other non-judicial means including arbitration, as agreed upon by FAO and DGD.
- 5.3 If, any time, either party determines that the purpose of this letter can no longer be effectively or appropriately carried out, the present arrangement may be terminated at the initiative of either FAO or DGD giving three months written notice. Nevertheless, contractual obligations entered into force between FAO and any third party prior to the receipt of the notice of termination, shall not be affected by the termination.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 The use of SFERA working capital, revolving fund and programme components will systematically be on the agenda of the FAO – Belgium consultation.
- 6.2 Belgium is very committed to the Grand Bargain. We attach great value to the implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments by its different stakeholders. Therefore, Belgium will consequently and systematically discuss this topic during its meetings and consultations with all relevant stakeholders in the humanitarian eco-system.
- 6.3 Belgium wants to underline the centrality of protection that should be ensured in humanitarian action and recalls in this regard the commitment taken by the humanitarian community through IASC Principals' Statement in 2013 on the centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action, based on and in accordance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law as well as internationally recognized protection standards.

7. Correspondence

The offices responsible for all matters related to this letter are:

For FAO
Office of Emergency and Resilience
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy

For Belgium
Belgian Permanent Representation to the UN
agencies in Rome
Giuseppe De Notaris, 6
00197 Roma, Italy