

**World Bee Day 2019  
Draft Programme Agenda**

*Raising Awareness on the Role of Bees and Pollinators in Food and Agriculture*

**Monday, 20 May 2019 | Proposed Time: 10:30-12:30**

**2 hours in Length (90 minutes in Sheikh Zayed and 30 minutes in Atrium)**

**Preferable Room- Sheikh Zayed Center, FAO, Rome**

**Target Audience- 80-100 participants from FAO Permanent Representatives, FAO Employees, and invited guests**

Bees are among the hardest working creatures on the planet. Bees and other pollinators provide the important ecosystem service of ensuring out-crossing, and thus reproduction and biodiversity of many cultivated and wild plants. A wide variety of plants critical to human well-being and livelihoods require pollinators.

To bring global attention to the importance of bees and other pollinators, in 2017, after three years of efforts led by the Government of Slovenia, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution declaring 20 May as World Bee Day and the first observance of World Bee Day was held on 20 May 2018 in Ljubljana, Republic of Slovenia with the participation of the FAO Director-General.

On the occasion of the second observance of World Bee Day, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and Apimondia (as the international organization representing the beekeeping sector), will organize a focused event at the Headquarters of FAO to **raise awareness of the role of bees and pollinators in food and agriculture**. This event will take place in parallel with an observance at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The overall objective of the second observance of World Bee Day is to focus public attention on the role of beekeeping, bees and other pollinators in increasing food security and fighting hunger and poverty as well as in providing key ecosystem services for agriculture.

<b>High-Level Opening</b>	
10.30-10.40	Opening of the event by Ms. Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <b>TBC*</b>
10.40-10.50	Special remarks by H.E. Ms. Aleksandra Pivec, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, and Food, the Republic of Slovenia
10.50-10.55	Special remarks by Mr. Boštjan Noč, President of the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association <b>TBC*</b>
10.55-11.00	Welcome and introductory remarks on panel discussion by Mr. Peter Kozmus, Vice President of Apimondia – International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations
11.00-11.05	Screening of video produced for UN HQ World Bee Day
<b>Diverse Panel Presentations (3-4 slides) and Discussion within the Overarching Theme of Bees and Pollinators in Food and Agriculture (gender and region balanced)*</b>	
11.05-11.13	Presentation by Mr. Dino Martins (Proposed), Mpala Research Centre, from a Science/Country/Regional perspective
11.13-11.21	Presentation by Ms. Damjana Grobelšek (Proposed), Beekeeping Academy of Slovenia, about the Slovenian beekeeping project in Bangladesh from the perspective of women's empowerment

11.21-11.29	Presentation by a Youth beekeeper from an agriculture, livelihoods, and culture perspective (beekeeper chosen by Apimondia- preferable male from Asia)
11.29-11.37	Presentation by a representative of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW) (provided by Slovenian delegation) from an International NGO perspective about women's empowerment through entrepreneurship with a focus on beekeeping
11.37-11.45	Presentation by Ms. Ilia Neudecker (Proposed), Secretariat of the Coalition of the Willing on Pollinators from a networking perspective
11.45-11.55	Q&A Session
11.55-12.00	Closing remarks by Ms. Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <b>TBC*</b> Alternative: Mr. Bukar Tijani, Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <b>TBC*</b>
12.00-12.30	Participants are welcomed to participate in hands-on displays and demonstrations in the Atrium (including some of the below suggestions)
	Moderator: Mr. Peter Kozmus, Vice President of Apimondia - International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

\*None of the suggested speakers have been contacted and the organizing committee (AGP, AGA, and OCC) has speakers in mind for each of the panellists, but potential speakers will not be contacted until the agenda is cleared.

#### **Special Arrangements (Brainstorming):**

- Beekeeping display in atrium (either empty hives and equipment or an observation hive in which the bees are contained in a protected glass case so they cannot escape) Display from the Republic of Slovenia
- Display about technological innovations for beekeeping (e.g. display of technology, sensors and other equipment that can be used to monitor hives and aid beekeeping)
- FAO and Apimondia brochures and publications on bees and pollinators
- Showcase working observation hives and live honey extraction with honey tasting
- Art installation of walk-in beehive (Republic of Slovenia to provide more details)