**70 Years of FAO: 1945-2015**

**Chapter Summaries**

**FOREWORD:** ERADICATING HUNGER IS POSSIBLE. In these 70 years, the world has grown more complex, more global, more interactive, and the major problems that we have decided in this book to call challenges are all interconnected. For instance: the problem of hunger cannot be tackled without taking into account the fact that, very soon, by 2050, there will be nine billion inhabitants of this planet. We must therefore plan how we are going to feed a growing population, raising its nutrition levels and doing so, moreover, in a responsible way which means promoting the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources and land ecosystems. We must also decide which measures we will adopt to combat climate change, considering its effects on agriculture. These are just some of the major issues and challenges that we must face in the coming years, which we also discuss in this publication. Last June I received the mandate of all of the FAO member states for a second term. My role in the coming years will be to prepare this organization to achieve the goals set by its members states. To do this, FAO is restructuring to become a fully integrated organization underpinned by five Strategic Objectives that enable us to tackle the challenges I have mentioned, in a more dynamic and effective way. FAO is also moving towards greater decentralisation in order to be closer to its members and to be on the ground, wherever it is needed. Let’s not forget that FAO is currently running some 2 000 programmes and field projects around the world, promoting the sharing of knowledge and offering technical support. We wanted to mark this anniversary with a book that could reach everyone, written in simple language and with an attractive design that the whole world could understand, because we believe that issues relating to hunger and nutrition affect us all, and it is our duty to communicate our message in the clearest, most comprehensive and most rigorous way possible. I have spent more than 30 years working and fighting in various spheres to put an end to the scourge that is hunger. We can now say that the number of people going hungry in the world has been reduced to around 800 million. That is 200 million fewer than in 1990. This is an achievement, certainly, but it is still an unacceptable figure, despite the many advances that have been made in many countries. We have 15 years ahead of us to end world hunger: 2030 is the horizon when, if we adopt the right policies and work together, we will achieve it. We are the generation that can and must do it. I believe that one day my life’s dream will come true. I hope to celebrate then with the satisfaction of having contributed, along with so many others, to one of the greatest causes to which a human being could devote his life.—*José Graziano da Silva Director-General of FAO*

Chapter One: FAO in seven decades

FAO is born:  First decade (1945-1955);  Second decade (1956-1965);  Third decade (1966-1975);  Fourth decade (1976-1985);  Fifth decade (1986-1995);  Sixth decade (1996-2005);  Seventh decade (2006-2015);  FAO member states;  Portfolio: Those early years

Chapter Two: A new FAO for the 21st Century

The 5 Strategic Objectives;  FAO today;  Director-General: A life dedicated to the fight against hunger;  The millennium development goals (MDGS);  The sustainable development goals (sdgs)

Chapter Three:

A global FAO REGIONAL OFFICES

Chapter Four: The 10 greatest achievements of FAO

The Eradication of Rinderpest;  The Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;  Codex Alimentarius;  The Fight Against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean;  Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;  Guidelines on the Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests ; The Committee on World Food Security;  The Eradication of River Blindness in West Africa;  The Green Revolution in Asia; Agriculture Market Information System (AMIS)

Chapter Five: The Greatest Challenges of FAO

Eradicating hunger and achieving food security; Hunger map; Combating rural poverty and inequality; Feeding a growing population;  Food losses;  Raising levels of nutrition;  Improving the resilience of the most vulnerable people to threats and crises;  Climate change in agriculture;  Management of sea and ocean resources;  Coping with water scarcity; Healthy soil for healthy living;  Promoting conservation and sustainable use of land ecosystem

Chapter Six:

FAO HEADQUARTERS A NEUTRAL FORUM

Chapter Seven: FAO open to Everyone

Partnerships;  Communications;  FAO Ambassadors and friends;  World Food Day;  Milan Expo