



Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

CFS OEWG-SDGs Meeting # 4

Date: 2 June 2017

Time: 14:00-17:00

Location: Italian Conference room, IFAD

Outcomes

Fourth meeting of the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Agenda

- 1- Opening by the OEWG Chair
- 2- Relevant updates (*for information and discussion*)
- 3- Future CFS work in supporting countries achieve the SDGs: contribution to MYPoW 2018-2019 (*for discussion*)
- 4- Draft outline CFS contribution to the 2018 HLPF (for discussion)
- 5- Next steps

Outcomes

1- Welcome by the OEWG Chair

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all OEWG participants. He informed OEWG participants that, following Bureau's endorsement, CFS' contribution to the 2017 HLPF follow-up and review had been conveyed by the CFS Chair to the ECOSOC President, and was available -with all contributions received- on the HLPF website. He recommended that CFS members and stakeholders reach out to colleagues in New York to promote the work done, and collect feedback.

2- Relevant updates (*for information and discussion*)

- The OEWG Chair informed participants of the organization of an **Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on SDG 2** in New York on 12-13 June, co-organized by the RBAs and UN-DESA, aimed at discussing the inputs received on SDG 2 and review of progress on SDG2 targets and some transversal thematic issues, to facilitate the HLPF review in July. He informed CFS members and stakeholders that both the CFS Chair and the OEWG-SDG Chair had been invited to participate. Members asked that a briefing be co-organized by the RBAs and CFS in Rome after the EGM, similar to the debriefing planned for Permanent Representations in New York on 14 June.
- In parallel with the preparation of the EGM, consultations have started on the **ministerial declaration**, with key elements already circulated by the co-facilitators (Austria and Jamaica). The OEWG encouraged Members and stakeholders of CFS to liaise with colleagues at headquarters and in New York in order to adequately reflect important key messages developed by CFS and its stakeholders in the final outcomes. Some members stressed the importance for the Ministerial declaration to reflect on the importance of CFS' work for the

advancement of the SDGs by countries, and in particular, on the importance for countries to apply CFS policy products. Members asked the OEWG chair and CFS Secretariat to circulate any information related to the consultation process of the ministerial declaration, to facilitate their liaising with New York counterparts.

- The CFS Secretariat updated CFS Members and stakeholders on the submission of a **side-event proposal** on food security and nutrition in protracted crises, co-organized by IFAD and WFP, and co-hosted by the Netherlands and a G77 country (tbc). The side-event will build a bridge between discussions on the nexus between conflict and hunger, the link between humanitarian assistance and development work, the four countries in famine or near-famine situations, and CFS policy work on protracted crises. Its objectives are to foster a better understanding in New York of why food insecurity and malnutrition are particularly complicated to address in protracted crises, and familiarise country representatives and stakeholders with the CFS-FFA's key messages in this respect. Others planning to organise side-events in New York (Switzerland, PSM) shared information with the group.
- The CFS secretariat also updated the OEWG on the preparation of the **CFS 44 lesson-sharing event**, which will create space in October for countries participating in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) in the HLPF in New York to have more in-depth discussions on their progress and challenges. Following-up on a previous letter sent in March, the CFS Chair will reach out again to the 44 VNR countries with a formal invitation and a short suggested template, drafted in consultation with the SDG technical taskteam.

3- Future CFS work in supporting countries achieve the SDGs: contribution to MYPoW 2018-2019 (for discussion)

Following the request from the MYPoW Chair for an OEWG-SDG discussion to facilitate the finalization of the draft MYPoW 2018-2019, members and stakeholders shared their views on the relevance, priority and format which future CFS work on the SDGs should take. Participants made several suggestions on methods to raise attention to CFS' work in connection to SDG progress, including intersessional briefings, side-events and VNRs. Participants felt that more information/feedback will be needed to assess the impact of CFS' efforts to provide the HLPF with an inclusive review, and more time is needed to discuss the findings of the evaluation, before concluding on how future work on SDGs should be organised. However there was broad agreement that continued engagement with the HLPF could be done through a lighter approach, especially when SDG 2 was not under in-depth review. Such inputs could either focus on a set of key messages or develop a shorter document based primarily on agreed language in CFS products. The Plenary timetable could also be reviewed to provide more systematic opportunities to discuss country experiences, and better link evidence and analyses to progress reviews on SDGs.

4- Draft outline CFS contribution to the 2018 HLPF (for discussion)

The OEWG-SDG Chair shared written inputs received, and participants provided further feedback on the draft outline for a contribution to the global review "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies".

Interventions suggested that the key messages should be kept brief and few; when developed, they should stress both the role of the goals under in depth review (sanitation, energy, sustainable production and consumption, sustainable rural-urban links, etc) to advance FSN, as well as the importance of FSN to achieve the goals under review ('duality of causality'). It was also suggested to give greater emphasis to the importance of building resilience in the key messages, alongside shifting to more sustainability. Text should carefully reflect agreed language.

A section by section discussion allowed participants to make suggestions on sections of the template which could be merged (e.g. sections a and b) or reduced and/or better focused (sections c, d and f), in light of the earlier call for a "lighter" approach. Suggestions were made of key topics to include in section f), where the three proposed subheadings were not deemed necessary to be retained.

5- Next steps:

The Chair thanked the OEWG participants for their constructive participation and feedback, and invited them to send written inputs until 13 June COB to guide the development by the CFS Secretariat and taskteam of the contribution.

He reminded the OEWG that the last meeting of the intersessional period will be held on 24 July. Given the impossibility to introduce any new changes after this meeting due to translation deadlines, he announced that an advanced draft will be circulated in the first week of July, for a written consultation before the OEWG meeting. Further changes can be submitted during the Plenary discussion on the 2018 contribution to the HLPF.