

CSM Advisory Group
Draft Contributions to the Joint Meeting of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group,
8 July 2016

Agenda Item 6: Urbanization and Rural Transformation

On the draft decision box:

Point c) and d) are the substantial points.

Point c) includes the description of what could happen during the two-days of CFS meetings dedicated to these workstreams in 2017. It is very unclear what will be achieved during these 2 days. How is this different from the recent process? What is the added value? Sharing of experiences and practices is not enough. A compendium of good practices is also not a satisfactory CFS result. The process of this workstream needs a clear objective and purpose until October 2017.

Point d) includes a proposal for an HLPE report on the topic: while the idea for such a report is something to be discussed, it is not a good idea to include it into the Decision Box that is to be approved by the Plenary. It is the role of the MYPOW process to discuss the future workstreams and HLPE reports of the CFS. A plenary decision would make it difficult for the MYPOW OEWG to freely decide. Therefore, the idea for an HLPE report should be kept in the background document.

Possibly, the draft decision box should be discussed today only, but not approved. It should be tabled in a revised version at the AG/Bureau meeting on September 12, and approved by the Bureau on September 15.

On the draft Agenda of the Forum:

- The CSM WG on Urbanization and Rural Transformation strongly suggest to strengthen the methodological concept of the Forum through guiding questions, particularly for part 1 and 2. We believe that we need leading questions to guide the debate, based also on the dynamics of the discussions during the Technical Workshops. We have provided the CFS Secretariat with specific proposals for guiding questions which are based on the previous workshops towards the development of the background paper and linked to other key policy products and work areas of the CFS. They would be important to inform the next steps/role of the CFS on this topic.
- Regarding the proposed Panelists:
 - We would like to clarify again that the Civil Society panelist is proposed and chosen by the CSM (the CFS Reform Document recognizes the autonomy of the CSM to nominate its spokespersons and to designate its representatives in communicating with CFS by its internal self-selection process (CFS:2009/2 Rev. 2 paragraph 15, 16). Our WG has already made a proposal for speakers from Kenya (Davinder Lamba) and Brazil (Christiane Costa). We ask the CFS to provide us the date by which this person should be chosen.

- Regarding the other possible discussants and panelists, the CSM WG has expressed preferences:
 - For Corinna Hawkes as discussant in Part 1.
 - For Tim Land and Harriet Friedman as panelists from the Research community.
 - For Wayne Roberts as panelist from local governments.
- Our Working Group also proposes a moderator for the session: Henk Renting or Marielle Duebbling from the RUA Foundation
- More detailed information on the rationale for these suggestions has been provided to the CFS Secretariat in written form.