



Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Monitoring

CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_05_18_04_Outcomes

CFS OEWG-Monitoring/2017/05/18

CFS OEWG-Monitoring #3

Date: 18 May 2017

Time: 14:00-17:00

Location: Philippines Room, FAO (Building C, 2nd Floor)

Outcomes

Agenda

- 1- Welcome by OEWG Chair
- 2- Proposal for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other policy recommendations
- 3- Proposal for the preparation of the Global Thematic Event
- 4- Way forward for the OEWG on Monitoring
- 5- Draft decisions for Plenary

1- Welcome by OEWG Chair

The Chair opened the meeting after which the agenda was adopted.

2- Proposal for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other policy recommendations

The CFS Secretariat presented the revised proposal for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other policy recommendations.

Monitoring the implementation of main policy products (Section 1 of the proposal)

The CFS Secretariat reminded participants of the consensus reached at the previous OEWG meeting on 6 April 2017 on the following:

- Approach: no clustering of other CFS recommendations and focus solely on the main policy products;
- Frequency: Global Thematic Events (GTEs) held every two years to allow sufficient time for carrying out a comprehensive stocktaking exercise with the involvement of countries and regions, in line with the guidance provided in the “Terms of reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events at national, regional and global levels”, endorsed at CFS 43;
- Call to countries and regions to contribute inputs to the GTE issued about 20 months before the GTE is held in Plenary, i.e. in March of the previous year.

Participants were informed that a consensus had been reached on RtF as the theme for the GTE at CFS 45 in 2018, with the agreement that a neutral and factual summary of the event will be included in the Plenary Report.

Participants agreed that the GTE at CFS 47 would focus on FFA and the GTE at CFS 49 on RAI. The sequence for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products will therefore be the following:

- CFS 45 (2018): Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (RtF)
- CFS 47 (2020): Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis (FFA)
- CFS 49 (2022): Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI)

Monitoring the implementation of other policy recommendations (Section 2 of the proposal)

With reference to paragraph 11 of the proposal, different views were expressed on whether the monitoring of other policy recommendations should be taken up by the Bureau and Advisory Group or by the OEWG, or whether a decision should be taken on monitoring these.

Some participants highlighted that plenary had endorsed in 2013 the proposal to focus monitoring on the Committee's major, strategic and catalytic products which does not include the other policy recommendations.

It was suggested the monitoring of other policy recommendations could be piloted during the intersessional period or via side events during the Plenary week.

There was no further discussion or conclusion on the proposal as the meeting went on to discuss Agenda Item #4 on the way forward for the OEWG on Monitoring.

3- Proposal for the preparation of the Global Thematic Event

This agenda item was not discussed.

4- Way forward for the OEWG on Monitoring

All participants agreed on the fundamental role of the monitoring function for CFS but had divided views on how that should be taken forward, particularly in relation to the need for the continuation of the OEWG in 2018. Specifically:

- Some said that the importance of the monitoring function for CFS justified a standing OEWG while others said that only agreed concrete activities could justify the continuation of the OEWG;
- Some recommended against pre-emptively making a decision on the OEWG activities in 2018 as the on-going parallel stream of work to respond to the CFS evaluation would likely have implications for all the OEWGs, including monitoring;
- It was underlined that the OEWG could propose activities in 2018 but should include a caveat that this decision would be subject to the decisions taken through the process of the CFS evaluation;
- There were also views that the evaluation work cannot stall the discussion of the OEWG, considering that the OEWG has to prepare a draft decision for the Plenary, mindful not to try to preempt the possible outcomes of the future discussions of the evaluation recommendations;
- Some participants said that it may not be necessary to have an exclusive OEWG on monitoring and the OEWG could be merged with other OEWGs, such as MYPoW and budget.

- There were suggestions to pause the work of the OEWG and to re-establish the OEWG on a needs basis, as and when additional monitoring activities are required.

The above led to several proposals for the way forward for the OEWG on Monitoring, either recommending the continuation of the work of the OEWG to oversee monitoring activities and continue the development of the CFS innovative monitoring mechanism (agreeing that this continuation could be reconsidered in light of the decisions to be taken in response to the CFS evaluation) or a pause in the work of the OEWG with the OEWG being re-established by the Bureau as needed.

There was no consensus on the continuation of the OEWG and it was proposed to organize another OEWG meeting to continue the discussion.

5- Draft decisions for Plenary

The document was not discussed in detail and the CFS Secretariat was tasked to introduce the two proposals mentioned under Agenda Item #4 as options into the decision box for the OEWG to continue discussion at its next meeting.

Next Steps

Another OEWG meeting will be scheduled, taking into consideration the calendar of activities of the permanent representatives. The objectives of the meeting will be to agree on the way forward for the OEWG on monitoring and finalize the discussions under the other agenda items. The date and venue will be communicated soon.

The secretariat was asked to propose options for the Draft Decisions for Plenary based on the proposals discussed during the meeting most likely to lead to consensus.