Outcomes

Agenda

1- Welcome by OEWG Chair
2- Draft decisions for Plenary (for agreement)
3- Proposal for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations (for agreement)
4- Proposal for the preparation of the Global Thematic Event (for agreement)

1- Welcome by OEWG Chair

The Chair opened the meeting, which was the fifth meeting of the OEWG in 2017. The agenda was adopted without any amendment.

2- Draft decisions for Plenary (for agreement)

Germany presented the results of the informal consultation that was held after the last meeting of the OEWG on 31 May 2017 to come to a compromise on the way forward for the OEWG. He stressed the fact that there was general agreement on the fundamental importance of the monitoring function for CFS and the need to have a space to discuss the preparation of the CFS 45 Global Thematic Event (GTE). Germany thought that the proposal resulting from the consultation was balanced and addressed contrasting views on the continuation of the OEWG. In the proposal, the Bureau oversees the preparation of the GTE and the OEWG is consulted for its preparation, pursuing its activities in 2018, but there will only be a one-off meeting which takes into account the need for streamlining CFS work.

An alternative proposal was presented with additional tasks for the OEWG including the development of a detailed proposal for the implementation of the CFS monitoring function, the monitoring of the other CFS policy recommendations and the follow-up on previous CFS decisions related to the incremental development of the innovative monitoring system of CFS.

Participants agreed that it was important to follow up on previous CFS decisions but felt that this should be discussed in the context of the on-going process to address the evaluation recommendations. Point e) was then added to the original proposal for the Committee to recognize this. Participants confirmed that the need and role for the OEWG should be considered in light of the decisions of the Committee related to the follow up to the evaluation. Consensus was reached on the text in the draft decisions [CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_04_06_03_REV3].
3- Proposal for monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations (for agreement)

The CFS Secretariat presented the second section of the proposal dedicated to monitoring the implementation of other CFS policy recommendations, as the first section was agreed in a previous meeting.

Participants agreed that it was important to monitor other CFS policy recommendations but felt that further discussion were needed to clarify the modalities. There was agreement to remove footnote 6 of the proposal which was thought not to be useful.

Some participants felt that the proposal [CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_04_6_02_REV] should be less prescriptive and allow for flexibility in the organization of events. It was then agreed to delete the reference to calls for inputs to countries and regions (paragraph 10) and the modality for reporting on the results of the events (paragraph 11). It was also agreed to refer to the use and application of CFS policy recommendations instead of their implementation (paragraphs 8 and 9).

Following the discussion, it was agreed to remove the brackets from Point d) of the Draft Decisions Document [CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_04_6_03_REV] and introduce a change in Point b), stressing the fact that the organization of events to monitor the other CFS policy recommendations was dependent on the availability of resources.

4- Proposal for the preparation of the Global Thematic Event (for agreement)

The CFS Secretariat presented the proposal for the preparation of the Global Thematic Event to share experiences and take stock of the use and application of the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security during CFS 45 in 2018.

The meeting noted that the timeline for the call of inputs had been rescheduled from June 2017 to July 2017 due to the delay in setting up the Technical Task Team (TTT). Correspondingly, the timeline for issuing the call for inputs had been revised from July – November 2017 to August – December 2017 [CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_05_18_02_REV].

Next Steps

The CFS Secretariat will update the revised versions of the following documents according to what was agreed and circulate them to the OEWG:

- Draft Decisions for Plenary
- Proposal for monitoring CFS main products and other policy recommendations
- Proposal for the preparation of the next GTE at CFS 45

The draft decisions will be presented at the Bureau and Advisory Group meeting on 20 July for discussion and the Bureau meeting on 21 July for endorsement.