CFS FORUM ON URBANIZATION, RURAL TRANSFORMATION AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

CFS 43 Draft Decision

The draft text provided below is only intended to generate a preliminary discussion within the Bureau and Advisory Group. Following the July 8th meeting, a revised version will be prepared and submitted for discussion and agreement by Plenary during the Forum on Urbanization, rural transformation and implications for food security and nutrition.

[MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE]

The Committee:

a) Welcomes the Forum as a first opportunity for all stakeholders to exchange views and practical experience on the challenges, opportunities and positive outcomes that they have seen as a result of more integrated rural-urban approaches;

b) Welcomes the overview provided in document CFS 2016/43/11 Urbanization, Rural Transformation and Implications for Food Security and Nutrition: Key Areas for Policy Attention and Possible Roles for CFS;

c) Recalling para 35 of the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) for 2016-2017, requests the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) to convene a two day meeting in 2017. The first day would consist of a targeted peer and multi-stakeholder learning and good practice sharing exercise aimed at identifying practical examples of effective policy approaches on addressing food security and nutrition in the context of changing rural-urban dynamics. Under this function, CFS can also invite the participation of relevant bodies and initiatives including, but not limited to, UN HABITAT and the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact network. The second day would be dedicated to reviewing the compilation of identified good practices which would be submitted at CFS 44 as a compendium of effective policy approaches. The two day meeting would not be held on consecutive days to allow sufficient time for the Secretariat to prepare the draft compendium, and for Members and Participants to consult their constituencies.

d) Requests the OEWG MYPoW, as it continues its work elaborating priorities for CFS activities in the biennium 2018-2019, to consider an HLPE report for presentation to CFS in 2019. The HLPE report would take stock of additional evidence and provide a systemic analysis of the policy shifts that would be required to adequately address the direct and indirect consequences of a
rapidly growing urban population on food systems. The report would also provide evidence on how producers, particularly smallholder farmers, are affected by urbanization and which policies would ensure better planning for food security and nutrition across territories. Given its ability to bridge scientific and political multi-stakeholder discussions, CFS is uniquely positioned to tackle this issue. No other international forum is currently addressing or expected to address the challenge of integrating food security and nutrition objectives into territorial planning. An HLPE report would therefore fill a global gap and contribute to fulfilling the CFS vision for a world free of hunger by strengthening countries’ capacity to formulate policies that are aligned with the changing rural urban dynamics.

e) The evidence and knowledge based HLPE report, combined with the compendium of good practices and information obtained through the thematic reviews of the High Level Political Forum and other global progress reviews, would provide the starting point for the development of a CFS global policy guidance tool after 2019 making use of all three functions of CFS within its global coordination framework. This would take the work on urbanization and rural transformation beyond the 2016-17 MYPoW, but would allow CFS a deeper engagement on the issue over the longer term.]