

Update on Policy Convergence Process on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition

This document outlines the proposed process, timeframe, and procedures for reaching agreement on the policy recommendations for ‘Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition’, informed by the High Level Panel of Experts report.

This proposal aims to build on the experience and lessons learned of past years¹ in the Committee’s efforts at continuous improvement, while retaining the core elements of:

- **Inclusivity** –that all stakeholders that are interested in engaging are able to;
- **Quality** – allowing sufficient time to review the HLPE report and discuss the findings and recommendations without compromising final negotiated outcome;
- **Flexibility** – using all tools available to arrive at consensus depending on the specific issue at hand and interest of stakeholders involved.

Outline of Process and Timeframe

Activity	Date	Procedural Notes
HLPE launch	27 June	
Preparatory meeting to discuss expected outcomes, process and procedures	12 July	Discussion of expected outcomes and process with rapporteur
Stakeholders are invited to submit comments and proposals on the form and focus that the CFS policy recommendations should take Document available in all languages: 1 September Deadline for comments:	15 September	Allows 2.5 months from the launch of the HLPE report to collect input from capitals/stakeholders, <u>but only two weeks with translated versions</u> , to provide proposals on what the CFS recommendations/decisions should be, linked to the evidence in the HLPE report
Comments posted online with notice to all stakeholders	15 September	Comments posted as received
Meeting to discuss comments raised by stakeholders	19 September	Exchange of views and ideas on comments received and discuss ways to address them
Rapporteur’s proposal incorporating comments received and discussed in meeting circulated in English In all languages	By 25 September in English As soon as possible – possibly on 29 September	

¹ See CFS/BurAg/2016/02/02/02/Rev.1; CFS 43 Final Report para 15; and CFS Policy Convergence Options

Stakeholders are asked to submit written comments on the Rapporteur's Proposal		
Deadline for comments:	By 2 October	
Two day interpreted session to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hear comments and issues from all stakeholders on the full Rapporteur's Proposal, • identify areas of contention for attention by informal working groups, • agree on consensus text. 	5-6 October	Allows almost two weeks after receipt of Rapporteur's Proposal in English (and almost one week with the language versions) to consult with capitals/stakeholders and prepare input for reaching consensus.
Plenary session	9 – 13 October 2017	Discussion focused on issues and implementation. Potential to bring in case study presenters from different areas of policy practice. After-hours negotiations as needed, in English, 9 and 10 October, for endorsement on 11.

The process for reaching agreement (e.g. tracking verbatim on screen, note taking, Rapporteur's proposal frequency) will be left to the Rapporteur. He will circulate a note, before the meeting scheduled on 19 September, presenting his guiding rules of engagement. The form or style that any informal meeting takes will be up to each group.