Bureau Meeting Outcomes

Document No: CFS Bur/2017/02/10/Outcomes

Date: 10 February 2017
Time: 15.00 -18.00
Location: German Room, FAO

Agenda

1. Forum on Women’s empowerment
2. CFS44 Draft Agenda, Timetable and subject-driven Side Events
3. CFS44 Policy Convergence Process – Sustainable Forestry
5. Budget update
6. AOB

The CFS Chair, Amb. Amira Gornass (Sudan), opened the meeting, drawing attention to the Provisional Agenda and noting that a number of important decisions needs to be taken which will have an impact on the preparation of CFS44.

1. Forum on Women’s empowerment (CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/04)

The CFS Chair summarized the key points emerging from the joint Bureau and Advisory Group meeting concerning suggested improvements to the concept note and considerations around the timing of the Forum. The Bureau expressed general agreement on the substance of the concept note, once suggestions from the joint meeting were incorporated. With regards to the Forum’s timing, it was decided that it will take place in September on a date to be determined. The Forum’s conclusions and recommendations will be captured in a Chair’s summary and then presented to the Plenary for endorsement. It was also decided that discussion on this agenda item will include a key note speaker to ensure high visibility during plenary week.

2. CFS44 Draft Agenda, Timetable and subject-driven side events
(CFS/BurAG/2016/11/29/02_rev.1; CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/01; and CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/02)

Following the decision to have the Women’s Empowerment Forum before CFS 44, the Bureau decided to move the agenda item “Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition” to Friday morning with the HLPE Note as the background session document. Any other emerging issue could be discussed in this session.

The draft agenda that has been cleared by the Bureau is attached with these Outcomes. The Secretariat took note of the other requests regarding the timetable, including allocating more time for the Drafting Committee, and will accommodate them where possible.

Regarding the opening session, the Bureau acknowledged that the opening statements by the Chair and the heads of the Rome-based Agencies should be accommodated. The statements should be
followed by a panel discussion led by a professional moderator. The inclusion of high level personalities could also contribute to make the Opening Session as interesting as possible for outsiders.

The Bureau requested that they should be kept informed as to the status of the keynote speaker, and other high level participation.

The decision was taken not to alter the current way of managing Side Events as it was going very well.

3. CFS44 Policy Convergence Process – Sustainable Forestry (CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/03a; CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/03b)

Bureau members were reminded again of the need to submit nominations for the rapporteur of the policy convergence process who will have to be appointed on 8 May. The two background documents were approved with the following changes: the deadline for the submission of inputs has been anticipated to 20 July; and in the introductory remarks of the forestry session at CFS 44, an overview on the newly adopted United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests for 2017-2030 will be provided together with any recent relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly. The lesson-sharing segment, which will be part of the Q&A session, will focus on country experiences and will be the opportunity to present national case studies from different regions.

4. Advisory Group 2018-2019 Composition (CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/05)

The Bureau underlined the need to keep ensuring the inclusion of a plurality of views in the Advisory Group, with particular attention to the most vulnerable and those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. The Bureau also noted that the selection of engaged participants is key for the Advisory Group to be effective. The Bureau noted that when Advisory Group members cannot physically attend CFS meetings, they should be encouraged to provide written inputs concerning the different agenda items. The Bureau suggested to assess the level of participation and the contribution of current Advisory Group members as a starting point. It was suggested that in the future regional financial institutions such as Multilateral Development Banks could be appointed as members of the Advisory Group as foreseen in paragraph 11.iv) of the CFS Reform Document. The Bureau noted that the mandate of ad-hoc Participants should be time-bound. The Bureau recognized the need to prepare recommendations for the next Bureau. The CFS Evaluation, which touches upon most of the issues related to the Advisory Group composition, could be used as the basis for this discussion. The CFS Chair concluded by reminding Bureau members that in its first meeting in 2015 the Bureau had decided that this Bureau would not take any decision regarding the composition of the Advisory Group, but would provide advice to the next Bureau to help them take an informed decision.

5. Budget Update (CFS/BurAG/2017/02/06/07)

The CFS Chair introduced the item informing that no further information was available compared to that provided in the joint Bureau and Advisory Group meeting. The Chair reminded the Bureau of the meeting of 9 March to discuss the sustainable funding of CFS.

6. AOB

No items were raised.
Annex 1: List of attendees

CFS Bureau Members:

Ms Amira Gornass (CFS Chair / Sudan); Mr Abdul Ayazi (Afghanistan); Mr Mafizur Rahman (Bangladesh); Ms Fernanda Mansur Tansini (Brazil); Mr Xie Jianmin, Mr Bi Kan (China); Mr Khaled El-Taweel (Egypt); Mr Oliver Mellenthin (Germany); Mr Jon Erlingur (Iceland); Ms Maria de los Angeles Gomez Aguilar (Mexico); Ms Ikram Najib (Morocco); Mr Matthew Hooper (New Zealand); and Ms April Cohen (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Ms Mi Nguyen (Canada); Mr Militiku Tesso Jebessa (Ethiopia); Ms Valentina Savastano (Italy); Ms Liliane Ortega (Switzerland).

Observers:

Ms Lordes Magana De Larriva; Ms Camilla Contorni (EU Delegation); Mr Spyridon Ellinas (Cyprus); Mr Zoltan Kalman (Hungary); Ms Segolene Halley des Fontaines (France); Mr Sid Ahmed Alamain (Sudan); Mr Alessandro Suzzivalli (Malta); Mr Hein Gevers (Netherlands); Ms Galina Jevgrafova (Estonia).

CFS Secretariat:

Ms Deborah Fulton (Secretary); Ms Cordelia Salter; Ms Francoise Trine; Mr Giammichele Di Maio; Ms Chiara Cirulli; Mr Emilio Colonelli; Mr Fabio Isoldi; Ms Ophélie Hémonin; Ms Cherin Hoon; Mr Nathanael Pingault (HLPE Coordinator); Ms Sylvia Orebi; Ms Daniela Mei.