

**CSM comments for the CSF Advisory Group and Bureau meeting
3 May 2018**

Agenda Item 2 – CFS Evaluation

- a) Plan of Action: in the understanding that the presented text has not been changed since the January discussions, we do not have further remarks on it.
- b) Implementation Report: After the open meeting that took place yesterday there is a need to have a clear guidance on the further process. We would like to make some remarks and suggestions in this sense, for consideration of the co-facilitators and the Bureau:
- Informal meetings, if necessary, should be open to all interested members and participants.
 - Would be good to know as soon as possible if the announced meeting on 14 June afternoon is confirmed, and which are the topics on the agenda.
 - We understand from yesterday's evaluation meeting, that the following issues seem to be the ones that require more discussion: a) strategic objectives, b) roles, c) monitoring, and d) prioritization and funding.
 - If confirmed, the informal meeting on 14 May should address the pending questions on Strategic Objectives and Roles. The other questions can be solved when finalizing the annex on 14 June.
 - Due to our current financial constraints, the CSM is not in a position to confirm its participation to any informal meeting in late May or beginning of June. If the situation does not change within the next few weeks, the CSM will also have difficulties to ensure meaningful civil society participation to the CFS evaluation meeting in June.
- c) Clarification on additional info needed on expenditures and budget allocations, and regarding transparency of the related decisions:
- More detailed information should be provided on budget allocations with regards to CFS secretariat staff. Would be good to know how many people work in the CFS Secretariat staff, and who of them works under which kind of assignment.
 - More detailed and disaggregated information on budget allocation is needed with regards to "Workstream budget allocation". We suggest introducing sub-budget-lines for each type of activity that specifies how much expenditure goes into additional staff time, interpretation, translation of documents, and e-consultation.
 - Would be important to actually receive not only the planned budget, but also the actual expenditures in a disaggregated way, so that it becomes transparent if there are any unspent resources or savings and if they be used or reallocated to other activities that face a funding gap.
 - Would also be good to know, how decisions are taken within the Secretariat regarding budget allocation and expenditures: how does the Secretariat deal with needed changes when one workstream is underfunded, while others count with proper funding? To whom is the CFS Secretariat accountable with regards to budget allocation, expenditures and changes in these items?