CSM Message on AG Reporting Exercise.

Linking the CFS to what is happening on the ground is today more important than ever, especially in these times of crises coming along with COVID-19.

This reporting exercise shows the growing engagement of Advisory Group members in the use and application of CFS instruments which is encouraging. However, we all know that much more can be done, and in more coordinated ways. If the Rome-home nexus works, the CFS can make a real difference for food security and nutrition by making its policies useful to what happens in the countries.

For example: the monitoring exercise of CFS Policy Recommendations on Smallholders last year to which we did our own report, showed how governments, agencies and small-scale food producer organizations have used CFS policies on the ground. In today’s crisis, these policies to ensure the access of small holders to markets and policies to support smallholder investment in agriculture are fundamental and need to be implemented around the global.

Another example is the ongoing monitoring effort on the use and application of the Framework for Action for Food Security in Protracted Crises: this instrument is extremely relevant to people and decision makers on the ground.

We full support the Chair and all the members and participants who believe that the CFS can improve its effectiveness and visibility through a much better use and application of its policy outcomes which undoubtedly speak very strongly to the realities on the ground.

Strengthening the linkages between the CFS and the relevant actors on the ground and making the CFS policy outcomes more useful for countries and people has been a major concern of the CFS evaluation and the CFS Response to the CFS evaluation. In this regard, paragraphs 28-33 of the core implementation report (especially 28 and 29) require high attention of CFS members and participants, and more concretely the actions mentioned in annexes E and C.

These specific actions were discussed and agreed by the CFS during the evaluation process and need to be implemented now. Certainly, they request a leading role of members states, the very active, supporting role of the Rome-Based Agencies, and require the full engagement of all actors involved in the CFS.

As a concrete step ahead, one agenda item in one of the next CFS Bureau and Advisory Group could be devoted to address the question how these agreed actions could be better implemented, learning from successful experiences.