



****These updates cover the period since the 23 November 2020 Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting****

1. Food Systems and Nutrition

A second round of negotiations on the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems for Nutrition (VGFSyN) took place between 14 and 18 December. While progress was made, consensus still needs to be reached on a number of paragraphs.

For this reason, additional Friends of the Chair (FoC) meetings are scheduled for 18-21 January. A third round of formal negotiations will take place 25-26, and 28-29 January with the objective of finding consensus on remaining paragraphs in order to present a final version for endorsement at CFS 47 in February 2021.

Invitations for the Friends of the Chair meetings and the third round of negotiations will be sent to Open-Ended Working Group members. The background document (in English and other languages) as well as information on the process are available in the [CFS Working Space](#).

2. Agroecological and other Innovative Approaches

On the basis of workload considerations, the host agency's ability to service this workstream within the RBA calendar, and in consultation with the CFS Chairperson and Secretary, it was agreed that negotiations on the Policy Recommendations will commence after CFS 47 (8-11 February 2021). Dates for formal negotiations will be **29-31 March, and 3-7 May 2021**. Please mark your calendars.

A one-day, extraordinary CFS Plenary session (CFS 48) has been scheduled for 4 June 2021 to formally endorse the final, negotiated version of policy recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches. This work will be led by the process Rapporteur, the Ambassador of Nigeria to the Rome-based agencies.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Terms of reference for "CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition" were approved by the OEWG on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in December and will be presented for formal approval by Plenary on 9 February 2021.



Workstreams and Activities Updates

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The next step following Plenary will be to develop a Zero Draft of the Guidelines. An expert meeting is tentatively planned to take place in March, to inform the preparation of this Zero Draft.

There are no further *workstream updates to report since the November 2020 Bureau&Advisory Group meeting.*