

CFS OEWG-Nutrition Meeting #2

Date: 10 February 2017

Time: 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Location: German Room

Webcast: <http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/4303/icode/>

## Outcomes

### Second meeting of the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Nutrition

The meeting was webcast and can be viewed on:

<http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/4303/icode/>

## Agenda

- 1- Welcome by the OEWG Chair
- 2- Presentation of the draft Decade of Action on Nutrition (“Nutrition Decade”) Work Programme by FAO and WHO
- 3- Identifying CFS potential contributions to the Nutrition Decade Work Programme, for submission to CFS 44 Plenary
- 4- Update: First intersessional event on Nutrition on “Investments for healthy food systems”
- 5- Theme of Second intersessional event on Nutrition
- 6- Preparing the “Lessons learned and good practices on nutrition” CFS 44 session

## Outcomes

### 1- Welcome by the OEWG Chair (*for information*)

The Chair opened the meeting by introducing the agenda. He noted the importance of maximizing the use of time for the discussion of the first two items: the presentation of the Decade of Action (DoA) Work Programme (WP) and the CFS contribution to the DoA. The OEWG supported the merger of the two agenda items.

### 2 Presentation of the draft Nutrition Decade Work Programme by FAO and WHO; and Identifying CFS potential contributions to the Nutrition Decade Work Programme, for submission to CFS 44 Plenary (*for information and discussion*)

The Chair congratulated FAO and WHO on completing and sharing the first draft of the Nutrition Decade’s Work Programme. He reminded participants of the objectives of the discussion on this agenda item, namely, providing initial feedback on the document to FAO/WHO; as well as agreeing on CFS’ contribution to the Nutrition Decade. Dr. Anna Lartey, Director of the Nutrition and Food Systems Division in FAO and Dr. Francesco Branca, Director of Nutrition for Health and Development of WHO presented the WP of the Nutrition Decade (<http://www.fao.org/cfs/workingspace/workstreams/oewgnut/en/>) highlighting the following points: the Nutrition Decade aims to catalyse and facilitate the alignment of ongoing collective efforts; it foresees work in six cross-cutting action areas including on sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets; it encourages member States and other partners to make SMART commitments for action on nutrition; it foresees,

as means of implementation, the establishment of action networks, the identification of champions and the use of fora and conferences, including CFS.

The Chair subsequently presented the CFS proposed contribution to the WP of the Nutrition Decade describing the CFS strategy on nutrition, its functions and activities as constituting the major CFS contribution to the WP of the Nutrition Decade.

A discussion ensued. As to CFS' contribution to the Nutrition Decade, interventions reaffirmed commitment to CFS' nutrition strategy endorsed at CFS 43 and to the anticipated policy convergence work in particular, as constituting CFS' main contribution to the Nutrition Decade. The need to start entering as soon as possible into substantive discussions to define CFS' upcoming policy agenda, in consideration of its mandate and multi-stakeholder nature, was underscored. The importance of the planned intersessional events as contributions to future policy convergence work was noted. It was also noted that there is a need to coordinate and align the discussions of the Nutrition OEWG with those on the MYPoW. The objective of not overburdening the CFS MYPoW was to be duly considered.

**Wrap-up:** The Chair concluded that the nutrition strategy endorsed in CFS43 with the document CFS Engagement in Advancing Nutrition constitutes the main contribution of the CFS to the UN Nutrition Decade. He requested that any clarifications on expectations on CFS' contribution to the Nutrition Decade be shared in writing with the Secretariat by 24 February 2017. Based on the contributions received, the Secretariat will reformulate document 2017/02/10/02 and circulate it for approval on a no-objection basis by mid-March. The paper will be used to prepare draft decision text for the Nutrition OEWG meeting in June and would subsequently be submitted to CFS Plenary. While some proposals on future CFS work on nutrition were already sent in the context of the MYPoW, participants are encouraged to send further inputs, to agree on general lines guiding the work of the nutrition OEWG for the upcoming biennium 2018-2019, which will start following the launch of the HLPF report in CFS 44.

#### **4 Update: First intersessional event on "Investments for healthy food systems" (for information and discussion)**

The Chair introduced this item by underscoring the purpose of the intersessional events as a capacity building opportunity in preparation for the policy convergence phase. The Secretariat summarised the proposed format of the first intersessional event. A discussion on the event ensued. It expressed general agreement on the format as long as it would allow sufficient time for interaction and discussion with the floor. It comprised some suggestions for changes, including that of having a full-day event

**Wrap-up:** The Chair agreed to explore the possibility of a full day event, subject to room availability and meeting schedules. The Chair agreed the event should be as interactive and informal as possible. He stated that the Secretariat will select useful interventions and examples that can best describe the diversity of food systems in view of future policy convergence work. It was decided that, in addition to the UNSCN policy paper, other relevant papers could be added as useful background for the event. He invited participants

to make suggestions in this regard. The Secretariat will continue to work to refine the agenda and organize the event with the support of the TTT.

**5 Theme of Second intersessional event on Nutrition (*for discussion and agreement*)**

The Chair noted the results of the call for proposals for the theme of the second intersessional event, as summarized in the document on this agenda item. He requested UNSCN to briefly present, as also done in the previous OEWG meeting, the UNSCN discussion papers that could constitute the basis for the event; and EU and PSM to present their rationale for submitting an additional proposal. He then opened the floor by requesting that each of the participants express their preference for one of the themes under consideration.

**Wrap Up:** The Chair noted that the majority of preferences (10) converged on “Impact assessment of policies to support healthy food environments and healthy diets”. This was the theme chosen for the second event. He also noted that many participants (7) indicated “Stunting” as an important and useful theme to serve as a valid example of nutrition work because of its complexity and multidimensional nature. The Chair indicated that he will explore the possibility of a third event on this topic, subject to resources **Preparing the “Lessons learned and good practices on nutrition” CFS 44 session (*for discussion and agreement*)**

The Chair mentioned the objectives of this CFS44 session and noted the main suggestions coming from the TTT. He then opened the floor.

**Wrap Up:** The Chair concluded that this session will be based on the theme of the first intersessional event, i.e. “Investments for healthy food systems” and that the suggestions on its format, as described in the background document provided for this agenda item, were to be taken on board, including that of using the FSN to solicit and support the selection of cases to be considered.