



Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Monitoring

CFS_OEWG_Monitoring_2017_05_31_01_Outcomes

CFS OEWG-Monitoring/2017/05/31

CFS OEWG-Monitoring #4

Date: 31 May 2017

Time: 16:00-17:30

Location: Austria Room, FAO (Building C, 2nd Floor)

Outcomes

Agenda

- 1- Welcome by OEWG Chair
- 2- Draft decisions for Plenary

1- Welcome by OEWG Chair

The Chair opened the meeting after which the agenda was adopted.

2- Draft decisions for Plenary

The CFS Secretariat presented the revised Draft Decisions for Plenary and introduced the proposed two options on the way forward for the OEWG on Monitoring that seemed most likely to lead to consensus, based on the discussions during the previous meeting.

Note: Sections in brackets have not been considered during the discussion. They will be discussed at a later stage.

Option 1

d) Requests the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, to oversee the preparation of the Global Thematic Events in plenary [*and of the events organized for monitoring the other CFS policy recommendations during the plenary week or the intersessional periods, subject to resource availability*]; and

e) Agrees that the OEWG may be re-established by the Bureau as and when additional monitoring activities are required.

Option 2

d) Requests the OEWG to continue its work on monitoring in 2018 to oversee the preparation of the Global Thematic Events in plenary [*and of events organized for monitoring the other CFS policy recommendations during the plenary week or the intersessional periods, subject to resource availability and recognizing the CFS Bureau's mandate to prepare the CFS Plenary agenda*] and to continue developing an innovative monitoring mechanism for CFS, as endorsed at CFS 41; and

e) Recognizes that the need for and role of the OEWG may be reconsidered in light of the decisions of the Committee related to the follow-up to the independent evaluation of CFS.

Participants reiterated once more the importance of the monitoring function but could not reach a consensus on one of the two options. Participants expressed the following views:

Option 1:

- Participants in favor of Option 1 considered there were not concrete tasks justifying the work of the OEWG in 2018. They highlighted the fact that the discussion should take into account the need for streamlining CFS workstreams taking into account the budget deficit situation and overload of the Committee.

Option 2

- Participants in favor of Option 2 considered the OEWG needed to continue because plenary endorsed a document at CFS 43 that noted that the global thematic events will be organized in consultation with the OEWG on Monitoring¹.
- Some participants felt that the OEWG has not followed up on previous decisions made by Plenary and the OEWG should continue working on developing the innovative monitoring mechanism in 2018.
- Clarification was requested on Option 2, particularly on the specific activities envisioned for continuing the development of an innovative monitoring mechanism.
- Some asked to amend Option 2 to better reflect expectations from the OEWG on Monitoring as per the document endorsed at CFS 43². Based on this document, the OEWG is not expected to “oversee the preparation” of the global thematic events but to be consulted for its organization.

Considering these comments, a revised wording was proposed for Option 2 but no consensus was reached on this revised version.

Next Steps

Germany volunteered to facilitate an informal meeting with the interested parties, i.e. Brazil, Egypt, France, Italy, USA, Zambia and CSM, to come to a compromise on the way forward for the OEWG.

The results of the informal meeting will inform the preparation of another OEWG meeting which will be scheduled taking into consideration the calendar of activities of the permanent representatives. The objectives of the next OEWG meeting will be to agree on the Draft Decisions for Plenary and finalize discussions on: (i) whether and how to monitor other CFS policy recommendations; and (ii) the preparation of the next GTE at CFS 45. The date and venue will be communicated soon.

¹ Paragraph 14 of CFS 2016/43/7: ‘*Terms of Reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events at national, regional and global levels*’.

² Paragraph 14 of CFS 2016/43/7.