



Open-Ended Working Group meeting on responsible agricultural investments

16-17 May 2013 – Red Room, FAO

Chair's Summary

Background

The Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on Responsible Agricultural Investment (rai) met on 16 and 17 May 2013 to discuss the zero draft of the CFS rai principles. The meeting had before it the zero draft consisting of a list of proposed principles and sub-principles, extracted from a background document prepared by the CFS secretariat with the support of the Technical support Team (TST) composed of experts from relevant technical units of the three RBAs, the background document in English only, the Terms of Reference agreed upon at CFS-39, and the outline agreed upon at the last meeting of the OEWG.

Conduct of the Meeting

Statements were made by the regional groups, several country representatives, as well as representatives of the Civil Society and the Private Sector Mechanisms (CSM and PSM). Presentations by the OECD and PSM on ongoing activities/projects related to responsible agricultural investments were made. Agreement was reached that a new zero draft will be developed by the chair of the OEWG with the support of the CFS Secretariat and the TST and drawing on inputs from the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group as necessary and upon request. The zero draft will build on the current zero draft, the TORs and the outline mentioned above.

The new document will be submitted to the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group for feedback as to the appropriateness of the directions taking in drafting it, especially in terms of structure, style and language, without discussing content.

Based on the guidance provided by the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group the new zero draft will be further developed and finalized by the end of July. The document will be translated in all official languages and made available to members of the OEWG four weeks in advance of the next meeting.

It was agreed that a meeting of the rai-OEWG would be held in September to discuss the zero draft following the discussion schedule initially planned for the May meeting. The outcome of the OEWG meeting will be a chair's report that will feed into the regional consultations and will guide the preparation of the final draft for negotiation (first draft), together with the outcomes of these regional discussions.

It was agreed that holding the regional consultations was an important step in developing the rai principles, and that these should start after the OEWG in September and be conducted between then and January 2014, pending availability of resources.

Tentative Schedule from May 2013 – January 2014

Prepare Zero Draft	End July 2013 (translation in all UN languages is available at least 4 weeks before OEWG)
Zero Draft discussed in CFS Bureau and Advisory Group	CFS Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting June and July 2013
Zero Draft discussed in OEWG (as it was foreseen for 16 – 17 May)	September 2013
Regional multi-stakeholder consultations, e-consultation and consultation within existing regional meetings/fora	After OEWG in September 2013 – January 2014