

CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

Date: 6 February 2017

German Room, FAO, 09.30-12.30

Policy Convergence Process on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition

This document outlines the proposed process, timeframe, and procedures for reaching agreement on the policy recommendations for ‘Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition’, informed by the High Level Panel of Experts report.

This proposal aims to build on the experience and lessons learned of past years¹ in the Committee’s efforts at continuous improvement, while retaining the core elements of:

- **Inclusivity** –that all stakeholders that are interested in engaging are able to;
- **Quality** – allowing sufficient time to review the HLPE report and discuss the findings and recommendations without compromising final negotiated outcome;
- **Flexibility** – using all tools available to arrive at consensus depending on the specific issue at hand and interest of stakeholders involved.

Outline of Process and Timeframe

Activity	Date	Procedural Notes
Bureau and Advisory Group discussion of plenary format and focus	February 6 th + 10 th	This would allow enough time to agree on format and plan the session
Select rapporteur	May 8 th	Email sent out in April asking for nominations. Bureau decision at May meeting
HLPE launch	June 27 th	
Preparatory meeting to discuss process and procedures	July 12 th	Discussion of process with rapporteur
Stakeholders are invited to submit comments and proposals on the form and focus that the CFS policy recommendations should take	June 27 th	Allows for 4 weeks from the launch of the HLPE report to collect input from capitals/stakeholders and present proposals on what recommendations should be, linked to the evidence in the HLPE report
Deadline for comments:	July 24 th	
Comments posted online with notice to all stakeholders	July 24 th	Comments posted as received

¹ See CFS/BurAg/2016/02/02/02/Rev.1; CFS 43 Final Report para 15; and CFS Policy Convergence Options

Meeting to discuss comments raised by stakeholders	July 25 th	Exchange views and ideas based on comments received
Rapporteur's proposal incorporating comments received and discussed in meeting circulated In all languages	By August 4 th As soon as possible	
Stakeholders are asked to submit written comments on the Rapporteur's Proposal Deadline for comments:	By September 11 th	
Two day interpreted session to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hear comments and issues from all stakeholders on the full Rapporteur's Proposal, identify areas of contention for attention by informal working groups, agree on consensus text. 	September 19 th and 20 th	Allows for over one month after receipt of Rapporteur's Proposal to consult with capitals/stakeholders and prepare input for reaching consensus. <i>No new proposals should be introduced after this point.</i>
If needed, new Rapporteur's Proposal on any remaining un-agreed text is circulated based on views shared in two day meeting and Rapporteur assigns issues to be taken up by informal working groups	September 25 th	
Informal meetings to arrive at consensus if needed	September 25 th – October 2 nd	Groups can be formed and led by interested stakeholders tasked with reaching consensus on specific text, based on positions shared in two day session
If needed, half day wrap-up meeting to finalize document: -Informal groups present results -Final approval of document to send to plenary	October 4 th	
Plenary session	9 – 13 October 2017	Discussion focused on issues and implementation. Potential to bring in case study presenters from different areas of policy practice.

The process for reaching agreement (e.g. tracking verbatim on screen, note taking, Rapporteur's proposal frequency) will be left to the Rapporteur and to the discussion carried out with stakeholders on July 12th. The form or style that any informal meeting takes will be up to each group.

With the expectation that the recommendations are agreed ahead of plenary, the plenary session includes interventions by experts and practitioners addressing forestry and food security and nutrition – both from the HLPE Project Team and more widely. The discussion is devoted to key issues/findings of the HLPE report and addressed in the CFS recommendations, and the implications for policymaking in various regions.