CSM declaration on the SDGs Plenary session

General political statement on the endorsement of the proposal

18 October 2016

As Civil Society Mechanism, we'd like to welcome the endorsement of the proposal for the CFS engagement in advancing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. The reformed CFS being centered on the progressive realization of the human right to adequate food, the universality and indivisibility of Human Rights, provide the critical cornerstone for the CFS role in ensuring coordination and policy coherence and frame its engagement in the 2030 Agenda.

Furthermore, CSM understanding of inclusion, is that the participation of small scale food producers and their communities, is of paramount importance for just food security policies. The world can only achieve SDG2 and other related goals by only including small scale producers.

We support this proposal in order to strengthen the mandate of the CFS and reaffirming its critical role in the democratic governance of food security and nutrition. However, we restate that no progress can be achieved without the active participation of small scale food producers in the policy design of national strategies for the implementation of the SDGs, neither without serious and targeted efforts by the Governments to implement and monitor their commitments. The CFS has a central role to play in assisting countries in these efforts, by providing policy guidance and by promoting the implementation of its policy deliberations and agreements.

Interventions on the Guiding Questions - Nattie

Question a

- The CFS should restate the need of centrality of human rights in any endeavors related to the 2017 review theme, by promoting policy coherence and convergence with regards to human rights, and direct participation of rights holders in the SDG implementation process.
- The CFS should convey key contents and recommendations from the CFS products rather than simply listing them, as an example drawing from the lessons and practice sharing of the monitoring of the VGGTs, the CFS should underline the need to improve access to land and natural resources to achieve food security and nutrition. Furthermore, CSM recommends to highlight the centrality of agroecology and the preservation of traditional seeds by small scale food producers in achieving food security and nutrition.

Question c

 The CFS should promote an holistic approach to the SDG2 thematic review in line with the Global Strategic Framework. The CFS enables a comprehensive analysis of the root causes of hunger and malnutrition by looking at social, economic, environmental, and political determinants, and providing an inclusive platform for sharing, learning and identifying achievements and challenges ahead with the direct engagement of those primarily affected, rather than simply relying on statistics.

Question d

Governments should take action to integrate CFS decisions into national plans for the achievement
of the SDGs. The CFS contribution should make the synthesis between the opportunities offered to
the national implementation level by the CFS policy products, and the call to the HLPF to further
endorse the CFS recommended approaches into its deliberations. The CFS through its coordination

role, promote synergies among the HLPF inputs from different UN agencies and platforms that work on similar topics.

Question e

 We welcome the proposed outline which should incorporates the additional comments we just presented.