

**Message sent on behalf of Ambassador Mohammad Hossein Emadi, Rapporteur for the policy convergence process on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches**

Dear members of the Bureau and the Advisory Group,

I am honored to have been nominated to serve as Rapporteur for the policy convergence process on agroecological and other innovative approaches.

I look forward to working with all of you in facilitating dialogue among CFS participants, in particular Member State representatives and other stakeholders, aiming to reach a consensus on draft policy recommendations for presentation and adoption at CFS 47 in October 2020.

I will endeavor to facilitate the discussion towards a meaningful consensus, in collaboration with the CFS Bureau and advisory group, the CFS secretariat and technical focal points.

The policy convergence process started at CFS 46 Plenary Session on 16 October 2019. This session was based on the HLPE Report on [“Agroecological and other innovative approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition”](#) (available in all UN languages). Members and participants welcomed the HLPE report and underlined the need to transform food systems in order to address complex challenges, and to deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During this session, plenary provided guidance on the policy priorities to be addressed in the policy recommendations. A number of delegates, including regional groups, supported using the recommendations of the HLPE report as the basis for the CFS policy convergence process. There was disagreement as to whether the report sufficiently reflected other innovative approaches. Economic outcomes were another area of discussion, with some saying that the report did not fully consider the economic outcomes of agroecology, and others saying that it was impossible to make comparisons between different systems that have received different levels of support through research, subsidies, etc. Some delegates called for implementable and action-oriented policy recommendations, guided by international frameworks, while others insisted on the importance of allowing countries the flexibility to design their own policies. Several delegates called for the CFS to link its policy recommendations with the UN Decade on Family Farming.

Since the inclusive discussion showed the importance attached by CFS stakeholders to agroecology and other innovative approaches to achieve food security and nutrition worldwide, I am now inviting you and the other constituencies in the regional groups to provide further inputs in writing by **29th of November** highlighting your views on what the priority issues to be addressed during the CFS policy convergence process are in order to feed an initial zero draft of a CFS policy convergence process. All inputs should be sent to [CFS@fao.org](mailto:CFS@fao.org) and will be posted on the CFS website. Inputs will be consolidated by issues and the document will be shared in advance of the open meeting which is planned to be held on **27 January 2020**.

The planning for the policy convergence process until endorsement by Plenary in October 2020 was shared with the Bureau on 20 September 2019 and is attached for easy reference.

Please share this message with all the constituencies in your regional group.

Best regards,

Mohammad Hossein Emadi,  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative to FAO and Chair of COAG

CFS Secretariat  
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