

**CSM comments for the CSF Advisory Group and Bureau meeting
3 May 2018**

Agenda Item 1 – CFS 45 (Draft provisional agenda and Draft timetable)

Thanks for this draft. We would like to make some remarks on the current draft as a contribution towards the vibrant plenary that we are all looking forward to even if it is the first time of a plenary without a policy convergence process:

- We would like to have some updates on the possible invitation to the SG of the UN to the opening session of the CFS
- We are pleased to see that the World Food Day will be celebrated on Tuesday and no other session days will be taken from the Plenary week. As it is positioned now it offers the possibility to create synergies with the CFS and we expect that the world food day will be connected with the CFS Plenary week. In our opinion it would be good to know what is the draft agenda foreseen and have a shared process to ensure this connection and synergy.
- We would like to recall that on the opening day of the CFS Plenary will coincide with the celebrations of the international day of rural women. CFS should take advantage of this synergy by maybe identifying a rural women keynote speaker to open the plenary week.
- Concerning the first day we would suggest that all discussion and statements related to SOFI take place and conclude within Monday. We would hope that FAO decides this year to launch the SOFI during the CFS Plenary in order to not disperse the media relevance as it happened last year.
- Scheduling the evaluation on the last session before the drafting committee seems tight as we cannot foresee at this stage that consensus will be found on the entire document before the plenary
- We would like to know what is the status of the urbanisation workstream and what is the process from here to October. If a discussion is foreseen in plenary as scheduled in the current draft agenda what is the process towards that? Has the TTT being involved for possible drafting of suggestions?
- Moreover no space has been foreseen for a possible discussion on Monitoring as the OEWG will meet in June to further discuss the monitoring of the policy recommendations.
- It is important to dedicate one session to critical, emerging and urgent issues that can inform the upcoming HLPE in 2020. A proposal should be drafted by the CFS secretariat to be approved in the AG/Bureau meeting of July. Where to place it in the week?
- SOFA – migration do we still want to propose to have it on Friday?
- We would also like to have clarifications on the process for the MSP report as no funds up until now are available for the translation of the report
- We would like to also remind that for any CSM panellist in the Plenary the CSM will be fully responsible in appointing the speaker

Agenda Item 2 – CFS Evaluation

After the open meeting that took place yesterday there is a need to have a clear guidance on the process. We would like to make some remarks in this sense:

- Informal meetings, if necessary, should be open to all interested members and participants.
- Due to the current financial constraints, the CSM is not in a position to confirm its participation to any informal meeting in late May or beginning of June.
- If the situation does not change within the next few weeks, the CSM will also not be in a position to ensure its meaningful participation to formal CFS meetings in June.
- If confirmed the meeting of 14 May should address first of all the SO and roles

Agenda Item 3 – Workstreams and budget updates

Workstream update

- We would like to follow-up on the Forestry decision taken by the Bureau in January. We expect that the AG/Bureau meeting in September can start the preparations for the one-off event postponed to 2019
- Urbanisation (if it has not been clarified before)

Budget

- needs for more detailed information on budget allocation with regards to CFS secretariat staff. Would be good to know how many people work in the CFS Secretariat staff and who are they.
- needs for more detailed information on budget allocation with regards to "Workstream budget allocation". Propose to have sub-budget-lines for each type of activity that is foreseen to support the work of a work-stream (i.e. Additional staff time, interpretation, translation of documents, e-consultation) and avoid clubbing into one unique budgetline several activities.
- will be good also to have information on actual expenditures to see if any unspent resources or savings could be used or reallocated to other activities facing funding gap.
- Plus clarity on budget allocation Chair+Plenary

