

**Draft CSM contribution to the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meeting  
23 July 2018**

***Remark to be shared during the presentation of the meeting's agenda***

We are aware that many agenda items of the upcoming CFS 45th Plenary Session will be addressed in this meeting throughout the proposed agenda. In this sense, we believe it would be important to dedicate a specific moment to the CFS 45 Plenary agenda itself. This would allow to receive an update on the organization of different plenary sessions during the week and particularly on the draft agenda of the World Food Day and its synergies with the CFS Plenary week. We would suggest to discuss these aspects related to the CFS 45 agenda within the proposed agenda item 9 on CFS 45 and workstream updates.

**1) Nutrition CFS 45 – Draft decision**

We welcome the outcomes of the OEWG on Nutrition to be submitted to the Plenary Session. We would like also to remark a crucial expectation of CSM participating organizations towards this important CFS workstream. It is for us essential to avoid any scaling down to available resources when we address the process of this workstream. For a strengthened CFS we need a strong policy outcome, and therefore an adequate inclusive and participatory process. The regional consultations are a fundamental milestone of this policy convergence path.

An open call should be done to all CFS members to commit also financially to this workstream. The CFS 45 Plenary session could also be an opportunity where interested member states could express their willingness to financially support this workstream. Moreover, the different regional groups might want to consider the idea of specifically contributing or self-financing the different consultation meetings within their respective region.

**2) CFS Contribution to the 2019 HLPF and beyond – CFS 45 Draft Decision**

We agree with the draft decision box as approved by the OEWG. After the experiences with the HLPF in 2017 and 2018, the CFS should make a more strategic effort to use the CFS substantial input to the HLPF. In this sense, a clear strategy and coordinated advocacy effort of CFS members and participants is needed to ensure that CFS outcomes and key messages are well reflected in the final ministerial declaration. This task should be part of the agenda of the CFS meetings in preparation of the contributions to the HLPF in 2019.

The CSM would like to express its concern for the process and final program of the CFS side event at HLPF which was organized without proper inclusive consultation. For the future, it is important to ensure that the program of the side event serves the purpose of presenting the CFS submission to the HLPF. The side event should avoid being framed on issues the CFS has not yet deliberated on, such as with this year's focus on nutrition. It is also important that due process is respected for the organization of the side event, including TTT preparations and OEWG oversight.

Should the side event be requested by a UN agency or CFS Member State, this should not derail nor influence the objective and program of the side event.

### 3) CFS Evaluation

We have seen that sections d) and c) of the draft decision box were added after the last meeting on the CFS evaluation on 26 of June which agreed the text of the draft decision box until point b).

We all have spent enormous efforts, commitment and energies into the response to the CFS evaluation in the last months, and we particularly acknowledge the extraordinary facilitation capacity of China and Germany in this process. We believe that we should finalize the implementation of the response to the CFS evaluation before CFS 45. We should not prolong this process even more into the next year, and we are confident that this is possible. In this sense we would like to share with you the following elements for consideration:

- The response to Recommendation 3 on the resource mobilization strategy can be drafted as an information note (similarly to what it was done with the communication strategy). In fact, we already had rich debates about the budget issue and conclusions reflected in the core implementation report. The informational note on the resource mobilization could compile the activities and approaches of an effective resource mobilization strategy in line with the CFS Plenary decision.
- We have discussed many times the response to recommendation 4 about the role and composition of the CFS Advisory Group. We believe that we should conclude this chapter with the discussions in September and integrate this proposal coming from these meetings into the Plenary discussion and decision.
- On Recommendation 8 and 9, we would like to ask: what is the problem that makes it so difficult for FAO to present the draft Terms of Reference for the CFS Secretary? We also understand that clear TOR for this function would also support the selection of the new CFS Secretary. In this sense we would like to ask for an update on the selection process of the new CFS Secretary. We also believe that the TOR of the Secretary and the Chair should be discussed together, to avoid the problems of the past, and we suggest to also finalize this discussion before the CFS Plenary 45, if possible.

### 4) Monitoring

#### ***CFS 45 Global Thematic Event on the Right to Food***

We welcome the draft outline and we can support the Italian proposal for including an intervention of Ms. Pomodoro, UNESCO Chair on the Right to Food.

The background document prepared for the event shows the high degree of substantial responses and efforts in preparation of the Global Thematic Event. It provides evidence of the high and continued commitment of many members and

participants with the use and application of the Right to Food Guidelines. This is certainly important to acknowledge and to appreciate.

### ***Proposals for monitoring other CFS Policy Recommendations***

We believe that the Italian and CSM proposal have a lot of elements in common in terms of process and show the relevance and feasibility of having such a rather light process and stocktaking event in the Plenary of 2019.

On the topic, we would invite to consider the proposal on the policy recommendation for smallholders to markets and the rationale given in the proposal. The advantage of this topic is certainly in the fact that significant and specific measures have been taken for their dissemination, use and application, including the regional CFS workshops in Africa last year, the FAO led initiative on data collection on local and national markets, and a number of other efforts of governments and food producer organizations that can help to assess the continued relevance and progress in the use of this CFS outcome on the ground.

With regards to the budget, we thank the CFS Secretariat for the support given in drafting the budget proposal, but we believe that the total cost of this stocktaking could be reduced to around 55.000 dollars, taking into account that is meant to be a light process.

### ***CFS 45 Draft Decision***

We can agree with the draft decision box as it stands now, although a one-off meeting of the OEWG of monitoring would be the bare minimum to oversee the preparation of the pilot monitoring process of the most specific recommendations and discuss the future activities of the monitoring work of the CFS.

We also believe that it is fundamental to support the many important efforts of governments and CFS participants in using and applying CFS outcomes on the ground. This can effectively change reality and help addressing the structural causes of food insecurity and malnutrition that affects so many of our communities.

## **5) CFS 45 Critical and emerging issues in Food Security and Nutrition – Towards a strategic MYPoW 2020-2023**

We thank for the proposal of different options. CSM has a clear preference for option A. The number of people suffering from hunger is increasing, entire regions are devastated by conflicts, wars, occupation, many others are in the brink of famines. As people's organizations, grassroots movements and indigenous peoples, we expect CFS to be responsive to the realities of severe crises our people live.

In our view, HLPE Reports have helped CFS in discussing and delivering on crucial policy outcomes on topics that are very relevant to our people. It is not clear to us, why we should not make use of the HLPE for this purpose in 2020. For us, it is certainly not in first place a financial discussion, but a political one. It is fundamental to have an HLPE Report in 2020 to keep feeding CFS policy discussions with high-

quality reports in order to deliver effective policy outcomes that produce tangible changes.

To make the process feasible in the coming months, we would suggest limiting the selection of the theme for an HLPE Report in 2020 to the list presented by the second note of the HLPE on Critical and Emerging issues. On this basis, a call for preferences could be made to members and participants of CFS. The AG and Bureau meeting in September could assess the feedback, and the Bureau could choose two or three proposed topics for plenary discussion and decision in October.

#### **6) HLPE Report on Multi-stakeholder partnerships - Follow-up**

On the follow-up to this HLPE report, we bring the following suggestions from CSM discussions to your consideration:

- First, it is essential to ensure translation of the report before the CFS plenary in October.
- It is also essential for us, that the CFS ensures a meaningful political follow-up to all HLPE reports.
- We suggest not to start any policy convergence process without having the full report translated.
- The CFS Plenary should discuss and agree on the type of follow-up process to this HLPE report.
- In order to have possible options for the follow-up process, the facilitator could be invited to suggest options for preliminary discussion of the AG and Bureau meeting in September, and then for discussion and decision to the Plenary.

#### **7) CFS Workstream on urbanization and rural transformation**

If it is confirmed that the intersessional events agreed by CFS 44 should now be held in the next intersessional period, we can support his proposal. If this is accepted, we suggest that the Technical Task Team is convened to make a proposal to the AG/Bureau meeting of September which would facilitate a functional and effective link between these events and the MYPOW discussions in 2019.

#### **8) CFS Annual Report 2018**

In line with what we have been demanding within the discussions on budget in the last meetings we had requested the CFS Secretariat to include the CSM full and detailed budget within this report to provide members and other participants with transparent and full information on CSM financial budget. We think that this should be the standard for all CFS bodies when delivering their financial reports in the future.

#### **9) CFS 45, workstream and budget update**

## **CFS 45**

Concerning the agenda and timetable we have the following questions and suggestions:

- We welcome the fact that in the last Bureau and Advisory Group meeting the idea of raising the attention on the International Day of Rural women during CFS 45th opening session was accepted and supported. In the eve of the World Food Day, we want to deliver to you the expectation of having not only a mentioning of this important day but also a concrete commitment to its celebration by inviting a rural women representative as a key note speaker to address this topic. This proposal would also link the CFS Opening with the following discussion on SOFI, being women and girls the most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, and would help to improve the gender balance of the CFS Opening Panel.
- Can you please provide detailed information on the agenda of the WFD? Can FAO give an information on the preparation of it? What will be the role of CFS role during that day? And how will the topics discussed at the WFD celebrations be in synergy with the rest of the CFS 45 agenda, so that is not isolated day during the CFS week?
- How is the discussion on SOFI and SOFA going to be framed? It is important that respects the multi-actor nature and spirit of CFS. We therefore expect CSM speakers to be part of the panel discussions and will suggest the CSM speakers according to the topics and specific requirements of these panels. It would be important to have both reports, particularly the SOFA report in advance, in order to facilitate the preparation of the panel.

## **Budget**

We would understand that the incoming EU Contribution to CFS and HLPE have not been included in this budget projections for 2018/2019. What would be the picture if these committed contributions, and possibly other committed or promised contributions from other donors would be included?

In our case, we would like to inform the meeting that the approval of funding from the Swiss Development Agency and IFAD have considerably improved the CSM budget situation, and we also have included already the committed funding contribution from the EU. We would like to express our gratitude for these important contributions which have helped to reduce the CSM budget gap for 2018/2019 in a very significant way.

As said before, we suggest a high level of detailed information provided to the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group as a standard and would suggest including the CSM budget in its detailed version in all future editions of this budget. The transparency of the CFS Secretariat budget could also be approved, as we proposed to the May CFS/AG Bureau meeting.

As mentioned earlier today, we believe that the upcoming policy convergence process on food systems and nutrition offers an opportunity to get financial support from members and regions to its different components.