CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting
And Bureau meeting
Dates: 20 May 2021 (14:00 - 17:00) and 21 May 2021 (9:30 – 12:30)
Venue: virtual meeting (via ZOOM)

Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes
- With Bureau decisions

Agenda

1. CFS 49 Agenda and Timetable (with Bureau decision)
2. CFS 48 – Draft decisions on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches (with Bureau decision)
3. UN Food Systems Summit
4. CFS workstreams updates (with Bureau decision)
5. HLPE Steering Committee Renewal (with Bureau decision)
6. Any other business

CFS Chairperson, Mr Thanawat Tiensin, opened the meeting and welcomed the invited guests, namely the UN Deputy Special Envoy for the Food Systems Summit, the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the CFS HLPE Steering Committee, and several other members of the CFS HLPE Steering Committee, including Ms Shakuntala Thilsted, whom he congratulated for being the award-winner of the 2021 World Food Prize.

Before the approval of the Provisional Agenda, he noted that: a) item 2 was added to allow for a revision of the draft decisions on Agroecological and other innovative approaches, previously agreed by the Bureau in April, and; b) under AOB he would like to propose adding a meeting of the CFS Bureau with its (ad hoc) Advisory Group at the end of June.

With these amendments the Provisional Agenda was approved.

1. CFS 49 Agenda and Timetable (with Bureau decision)

The revised versions of the draft CFS 49 Agenda and Timetable were positively received by Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members.

Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members underscored the importance of keeping the attention high on COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts on food security and nutrition, with some participants asking for an item on COVID-19 to be ‘for decision’.

Similarly, it was asked whether item IV ‘The UN Food Systems Summit and its implications for CFS’ should be ‘for decision’ rather than for discussion only.

Addressing a Bureau’s question about the topic and the format of the Secretariat special event, the Secretariat clarified that, as per normal practice, the special event is not part of the formal session and its outcomes will not be incorporated in the final report.
The Secretariat clarified that more details regarding the format and roll-out of each agenda item are not usually provided in the Provisional Agenda, instead they are included in the session’s guide that will be circulated at a later stage.

With regards to the item concerning the rolling section of the MYPoW, it was highlighted that this is a standard agenda item that is meant to address potential adjustments to the programme of work, such as the order of workstreams or their timeline.

Bureau members were informed that there will be one session of the Drafting Committee, on Wednesday evening.

**Bureau decision:**
The Bureau approved the CFS 49 Agenda and Timetable, as they were presented by the CFS Chair. In addition, the Bureau agreed that, in case there will be a need to revisit them in view of the outcomes of the Food Systems Summit, the Bureau will do so.

2. **CFS 48 – Draft decision on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches – (with Bureau decision)**

The CFS Chair introduced the item recalling that draft decisions were approved by the Bureau in April. However, these needed to be amended as a result of the ongoing negotiations. The CFS Chair invited the CFS Rapporteur to present the rational for the changes required.

Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran, Rapporteur of CFS policy convergence process on *Agroecological and other innovative approaches*, shared the outcomes of the discussions held in the negotiation sessions with regards to paragraphs 1o, 2f, 3w and 5f, which concluded that due to their time-bound content, they were deemed more appropriate for inclusion in the CFS48 draft decision.

**Bureau decision:**
The Secretariat took note of the proposed changes as suggested by the Bureau. Consensus was reached on all paragraphs, except point k). In the interest of time, the Bureau agreed to finalizing point k) to be approved by silent procedure by 26 May cob.

3. **UN Food Systems Summit**

Martin Frick, UN Deputy Special Envoy for the UN FSS, provided a comprehensive update on the processes of preparations for the Summit, and highlighted the high quality of the national dialogues, with several countries ready to continue them beyond the Summit, perhaps an opportunity to link themselves to the CFS platform.

Martin Cole, Chairperson of the CFS HLPE Steering Committee, delivered a presentation on the roles and functions of the panel of experts, and on the reports and other documents prepared since 2010 in support of the CFS policy convergence processes. In his presentation, he highlighted, among others, the latest reports on food systems and nutrition, agroecological and other innovative approaches, and the synthesis report *‘Global Narrative towards 2030’*, both of which unfortunately have been insufficiently recognised and used by the science-group supporting the UNFSS. This disappointment is reflected in the recent *Op-Ed* issued jointly with the CFS Chair.

The background paper prompted a lively debate about the UN FSS, including a powerful intervention by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food on future governance structure for food security and nutrition, its science-policy interface, inclusivity, and rights-based approach.

This conversation will continue as we approach the Summit and it will culminate in a plenary discussion, as per the approved CFS 49 Provisional Agenda.
4. CFS workstreams updates

Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members were informed that the Department of Nutrition and Food Safety of the World Health Organization is hosting a series of dialogues, from 4 to 10 June 2021, focused on the nexus between health, food systems and human rights. In this context, a webinar on the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition is scheduled to take place on 8 June from 15.00 to 16.00 (CET). Concept note, agenda and registration links will be circulated shortly.

CFS Chair updated the Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members on: the call for inputs for monitoring the use and application of the CFS policy recommendations on water and climate; a new call for inputs for monitoring the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles, as well as; the preparation for the intersessional event on data systems scheduled for 1 July 2021.

With regard to the policy convergence process on Agroecological and other innovative approaches, the Rapporteur, Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran, updated on the progress made on the negotiations highlighting how 95% of the document had been agreed either in the context of the formal negotiations or of the Friends of the Rapporteur meetings. He thanked all constituencies for their constructive attitude and commitment to delivering a quality document.

Several interventions focused on the need to hold an additional interpreted negotiation session in order to arrive at CFS48 without any bracketed text. The need for delegations to have enough time to review the language versions of the policy recommendations was also highlighted.

**Bureau decision:**
In the absence of additional available slots in the calendar of the Rome-based Agencies before 4 June, and in light of the concerns raised by Members around the translation of the Zero Draft of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment (GEWE), after consulting with the Chair of the GEWE workstream, the Bureau agreed to postponing the OEWG meeting on GEWE scheduled for 25 May, and replacing it with one final negotiation session of the policy convergence process on agroecological and other innovative approaches. An OEWG meeting on GEWE is now scheduled to take place on 5 July, 9.30-12.30

5. HLPE Steering Committee Renewal (with Bureau decision)

ADG Ismahane Elouafi, FAO Chief Scientist, in her capacity as Chair of the Ad Hoc Technical Selection Committee (AHTSC), presented the selection committee’s proposal for the renewal of the CFS HLPE Steering Committee.

She commended the rigorousness of the process and the professionalism of the Ad Hoc Technical Selection Committee, and underscored the capacity of the CFS HLPE to attract the interest of a very strong pool of candidates - 51 nominations.

She highlighted the geographical representation, the mixed set of expertise, and the gender balance of the group, which, if approved, would comprise a majority of women (8 out of 15).

Last, the FAO Chief Scientist referred to the constraints in terms of representation of geographical diversity and technical expertise associated with the current size of the HLPE Steering Committee and the possibility of increasing the number of Steering Committee’s members was raised by a Bureau Member

**Bureau decision:**
Bureau endorsed the proposal for the renewal of the CFS HLPE Steering Committee, commending the transparency and thoroughness of the process, and the broad regional representation.

The CFS Chair reminded that the Bureau decision will now be submitted to a one-month silence procedure by the countries of which the proposed members are nationals, before their appointments are confirmed.
6. AOB

CFS Chair proposed to add to the calendar one meeting of the CFS Bureau with its (ad hoc) Advisory Group on 28 June 2021 (morning), and push the July meetings by one-day to be on 29 and 30 July, avoiding an overlap with the now confirmed dates for the UNFSS pre-Summit.
Annex 1: Attendance list Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

CFS Bureau Members:
Mr Thanawat Tiensin (CFS Chair / Thailand); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Mr Felipe Carlos Antunes (Brazil); Mr Bommakanti Rajender (India); Ms Agnes Rosari (Indonesia); Ms Halimatou Traore (Mali); Mr Don Syme (New Zealand); Mr Ilya Andreev (Russian Federation); Mr Rafael Osorio (Spain); Mr Paul Welcher, Mr Sean Cox, Ms Maria Adelaide D’Arcangelo (United States).

CFS Bureau Alternates:
Ms Elsa Simoes (Cabo Verde); Ms Liudmila Kuzmicheva, Ms Diana Infante (Dominican Republic); Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard (France); Mr Baye Mayororo Diop (Senegal); Mr Tim Kränzlein (Switzerland).

Advisory Group:
Mr Maximo Torero Cullen, Mr Mark McGuire (FAO); Mr Shantanu Mathur, Ms Jordana Blankman, Ms Ruth Fianu (IFAD); Ms Stephanie Hochstetter, Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Ms Stineke Oenema, Alessandra Mora (UN Nutrition); Mr Rodney Cooke, Ms Chiara Villani (CGIAR); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (Gates Foundation); Mr Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Mr André Luzzi, Ms Anelie Bernhart, Ms Sofia Monsalve, Paola De Meo, Mr Nemo Amaral, Ms Marion Girard, Mr Saúl Vicente, Ms Cristina Brovia, Ms Perla Alvarez Britez, Mr Stefano Prato, Ms Teresa Maisano, Mr Luca Bianchi, Ms Nora McKeon, Mr Alberto Broch (CSM); Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM); Ms Wüstefeld Marzella (WHO); Mr Michael Fakhri (UN Special Rapporteur RtF).

Observers:
Mr Yaya Olaniran (Nigeria); Mr Li Xiande (China); Mr Damien Kelly, Ms Goda Milasiute (EU Delegation); Ms Silke Stralkamp (Germany); Ms Federica Veschi, Ms Ratchanok Sangpenchan (Thailand); Mr Martin Cole, Ms Jennifer Clapp, Mr Bernard Lehmann, Mr Kamil Shideed, Ms Shakuntala Thilsted, Mr William Moseley (HLPE Steering Committee); Ms Maria Jesus Ferreira; Miriency Gonzalez; Mr Martin Frick (Deputy UN Special Envoy); Mr Keon Deconinck (OECD)

CFS Secretariat:
Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator), Ms Françoise Trine, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Elise Benoit, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Waiganjo Njoroge, Mr Martin Schunk, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Marina Calvino, Mr Massimo Giorgi, Ms Paola Termine.
Annex 2: Attendance list Bureau meeting

CFS Bureau Members:
Mr Thanawat Tiensin (CFS Chair / Thailand); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Mr Felipe Carlos Antunes (Brazil); Mr Bommakanti Rajender (India); Ms Agnes Rosari (Indonesia); Ms Halimatou Traore (Mali); Mr Don Syme (New Zealand); Mr Ilya Andreev (Russian Federation); Mr Rafael Osorio (Spain); Mr Paul Welcher, Mr Sean Cox, Ms Maria Adelaide D’Arcangelo (United States).

CFS Bureau Alternates:
Ms Elsa Simoes (Cabo Verde); Ms Liudmila Kuzmicheva, Ms Diana Infante (Dominican Republic); Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard (France); Mr Baye Mayorlo Diop (Senegal); Mr Tim Kränzlein (Switzerland).

Observers:
Mr Damien Kelly (EU Delegation); Ms Silke Stallkamp (Germany); Mr Yaya Olaniran (Nigeria); Ms Ismahane Elouafi (FAO Chief Scientist); Ms Supajit Sriariyawat, Ms Ratchanok Sangpenchan, Ms Federica Veschi (Thailand).

CFS Secretariat:
Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator); Ms Françoise Trine, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Elise Benoit, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Waiganjo Njorge, Mr Martin Schunk, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Paola Termine.