

CSM Draft Messages to AG-Bureau Meeting 14 January 2022

Agenda item 2 - CFS 50 Agenda and timetable

Regarding agenda and timeline, we suggest:

- Dedicate a specific debate of the plenary to the question on how to ensure global policy coordination regarding the food security and nutrition crisis exacerbated by Covid, and what role for CFS in such globally coordinated policy response?
- Ensure a link of this discussion with the discussion on the critical and emerging issues for the next MYPOW. More time for the discussion on MYPOW might be needed.
- We would like to ask how the process for identifying the theme of the HLPE 2024 report will be conducted during in preparation of the is envisaged.
- The Youth agenda item should have a full three hours' session, to allow broad participation and substantive discussion.
- The inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and small-scale producer constituencies, as well as youth representatives in all panels and side events of the CFS 50 Plenary.
- In general, we suggest ensuring Gender balance in all panels throughout the plenary. Gender parity also implies the inclusion of non-hetero-cis normative panelists!
- The International Day of Rural Women should continue having its place in the agenda of the CFS Plenary. We suggest inviting a rural woman speaking in the Opening of the Plenary session.

Agenda item 3 - CFS Policy convergence on Gender and Youth (Modalities of negotiations). For Bureau decision. process

- Point h) of the document is problematic in the way it is framed now. It should rather stress that Participants can propose text which will be included unless there is an objection of a Member State. Only if there is such objection, the proposal made by participants needs the support of a member state to be further considered and discussed.
- Point j) It is important that contentious text is substantially discussed in the full OEWG format, not only negotiated in the small FoC format which tends to be less participatory. Therefore, it is important to first ensuring sufficient time for discussion in the OEWG, and only then park the text for FoC discussion. FoC meetings should count with interpretation and be scheduled in advance. They should be limited to specific contentious paragraphs and not replace the more inclusive OEWG format.
- Point k) If evening sessions are scheduled, interpretation should be ensured. Evening sessions should be announced in advance.
- Time zones: Scheduling of full-day negotiation meetings in Central European time zone poses difficulties to participation from other time zones, particularly from the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. This carries the risk of excluding people. Members and Participants from other regions, who could not follow a debate due to unacceptable time, should have the possibility to share their views afterwards at another moment.
- Language on the screen: if the language on the negotiation screen continues to be only English, the Rapporteur or Chair should always read out the new paragraphs with the

proposed amendments, in order to let non-English speakers fully understand the proposed changes text through interpretation.

- Participants and members should have equal access to the means of participation even if their roles and their technological equipment are very different. Some delegations have more problems with connectivity and electricity than others. This is particularly true for some regions and for CSM constituencies and needs to be taken into account by the CFS.
- Hybrid formats where only CFS members are allowed to be in the room, while participants are not, do not comply with the spirit of the CFS. They would represent a particular disadvantage to participant in negotiations and should be avoided. Hybrid formats could also lead to highly unequal participation from world regions, as the highly unequal access to vaccine would impede the participation from countries of the Global South, most affected by vaccine apartheid. We understand there are no easy solutions, but all the principles of the CFS regarding inclusiveness, participation and fairness need to be considered in these virtual times.
- Point d) While we understand that interventions in CFS negotiations should always be to the point of discussion, we also want to highlight that the CFS is not only a space of trained diplomats, is not like FAO Council. The inclusion of smallholders and indigenous Peoples' organizations and particularly youth provide the opportunity to hear other voices. If our people speak in a United Nations discussion, on a topic of high importance to them, they need to be able to explain why this is important to them. For this kind of inclusion, we kindly request the patience and special attention of Member states.
- Point g): We assume there is consensus that food security and nutrition issues cannot be dealt with in isolation. Interconnectedness and intersectionality are important to overcome existing alienation and fragmentation and generate systemic changes and policy coherence. We hope that there is collective agreement that we understand point g) in this sense.

Agenda item 4 - CFS Contribution to the HLPF for the SDG debate in July

This year the theme of the HLPF is COVID-19. The CFS has a lot to say on COVID-19 impacts. Since the CFS contribution needs to be submitted by the 1st of March, there is not much time for a good and substantial process.

Proposal for the process: We propose to establish a technical task team that can prepare, under the guidance of the Rapporteur, the draft submission for approval of the CFS Bureau.