• Main CSIPM Messages to the CFS 51 Plenary on the Multi Year Plan of Work (MYPoW), delivered by the CSIPM Coordination Committee member Saima Zia (Pakistan Kissan Rabbita Committee and La Via Campesina) during the CFS 51 agenda item on the CFS strategic direction toward 2030, where the new Multi Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2024 -2027 was endorsed on 25 October 2023.

As CSIPM we have participated actively in defining the political agenda for the CFS over the next 4 years. The process has been challenging, and e thank the CFS chair and secretariat for this work. We hope that a methodology which is fully suited to the complexities of these negotiations can be adopted in the future. Overall, however, the CSIPM is satisfied with the 2024-2027 MYPoW, we support its endorsement. Throughout our intervention we will note its strong points and those where we feel more work will be needed.

• The MYPoW will start with the 20th anniversary of the Right to Food Guidelines. We call upon member states (MS) and UN agencies that engage in the CFS to consider this occasion as only the kick-off for a recommitment of the CFS to its fundamental mandate. We applaud the MYPoW’s strengthened Human Rights-based framing.
• Regarding the policy convergence processes, we appreciate the fact that we will have more dedicated time for each, without parallel processes. We feel that the topics to be discussed are timely and relevant.
• On the Indigenous People’s knowledge and food systems workstream, the CSIPM is concerned that the CFS should robustly incorporate the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples into the workstream, particularly the right to Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).
• We celebrate the fact that the central role of the CFS as a platform to coordinate global policy responses to the intersecting crises is now finally recognized in the MYPoW. This achievement results from years of work by the CSIPM and a group of MS. The inclusive, intergovernmental CFS is the appropriate space to address the multilayered crisis, rather than relying on multistakeholder spaces that are neither inclusive nor democratic. This coordination function should go beyond sharing experience. It should allow the CFS to hear evidence from most affected countries and constituencies about the evolving food situation to discuss key critical issues these countries are facing, such as breaking dependency on imported food or overcoming the debt problem, and to build coordinated responses. It should examine food crises and the transformation of food systems through a Right to Food lens, drawing on the relevant existing policy outcomes of the CFS, and thus promoting their uptake and use.
• Within the platform function, we also welcome The High-Level Forum on Climate Change, biodiversity and the right to food. This is an opportunity to explore the challenges that Global South countries are facing, such as the need for financial support measures in the form of reparations for the damages they are suffering rather than loans that only increase their indebtedness.
• Among the structural issues of the crises, we regret that the proposal to hold a discussion on the impacts of sanctions was dropped, despite the support it received from the CSIPM and some MS. We believe that unilateral measures which are not in accordance with international law and which endanger food security and nutrition, as recognized by the Framework for Action on Protracted Crises, is an important topic and could be discussed in the framework of the Global Thematic Event on Conflicts and Food Security that is included in the MYPoW.
• We note that there are no plans for voluntary guidelines in the upcoming four years. Voluntary guidelines allow for extensive political discussions and inclusive consultations. This raises the visibility of the CFS, makes policy outcomes more accessible, and enhances broad ownership of CFS policy outcomes. This absence of voluntary guidelines should not constitute a precedent.
The CSIPM welcomes the emphasis on the uptake function in this MYPoW, and the workstream on the use and application of CFS outcomes. In this regard, we look forward to the Global Thematic Event on Family Farming – including an assessment of CFS policy recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets and on Youth - since it will highlight the fundamental role of family farmers.

Finally, the CSIPM emphasizes the need to see the MYPoW as a whole, and to build connections among the three functions of the CFS and among the different workstream, within a Right to Food framework. Once again, we pledge our commitment to this unique forum and our strong engagement in the political programme of work that will guide us over the next four years.