

CSIPM intervention on Agenda Item II

CFS 50 Plenary – 19 December 2022

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We first want to acknowledge and welcome the draft Conclusions text as presented by the Chair and all the efforts that have been made to come to an agreement on the geopolitical issues. You know that our main criticism in October was that the CFS should not try to solve geopolitical questions but concentrate on its effective and inclusive response to the growing food crisis.

1. Why do we urgently need a globally coordinated policy response?

- The crisis continues to get worse. An increasing number of people continue to suffer and die every day.
- The problems that we small-scale producers in Africa and many other regions are facing are not caused by the disruption of global trade due to the war. They are due to the multiple factors that have made Africa dependent on food imports rather than supporting the family farmers, fisherfolk, pastoralists who are feed the majority of the population and are the backbone of African societies and economies.
- The urgent action that is needed to respond to immediate needs has to be coherent with the longer-term transformation of our food systems. Our already heavily indebted countries don't need more loans to import more chemical fertilizer, but support for local farming, food sovereignty and agroecology.
- Addressing the systemic causes of the current food crisis needs a coordinated approach at global level.

2. What are we proposing?

- We suggest a short additional paragraph following the paragraph i) already included in the Draft Conclusions, which would simply make these conclusions more concrete and effective:

'Calls for engaging an inclusive Member-led dialogue to propose an approach for providing globally coordinated policy guidance to CFS51 to address the current and prevent future crises'

We would appreciate it if this text could be put on the screen so everyone can see it.

3. Why is the CFS the most legitimate space for coordinating the response?

- Global policy coordination needs to be carried out in an inclusive **multilateral** governance forum that gives priority voice for **most affected countries and constituencies** in defining the responses. The **CFS is the only global forum** that fits this description. It's the only body where we small-scale food producers, workers, food insecure urban dwellers, Indigenous People, women and youth can bring our evidence and proposals, along with other actors who have technical information to contribute, like the Rome-Based Agencies.
- The CFS has the necessary **convening power** and the **mandate to coordinate** and strengthen **collaborative action**, to provide **support and advice to countries and regions**, as well as to monitor the policy uptake and implementation and their impacts on the **Right to Adequate Food**. It benefits from the support of the **High-Level Panel of Experts**.

We believe that this suggestion is in the common interest of everybody here. It is not asking for an Open-Ended Working Group or a negotiation process, but just a flexible approach to start to listen to the

experiences and views of most affected countries and constituencies and report to the CFS51 session. Responding to the urgency and gravity of the crisis and starting to work to deliver on the CFS mandate, while feeding in to the next MYPOW.