



17/07/2014

Finalization of the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems

Process for the Negotiation

FAO Rome 4th-8th August 2014

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is pleased to inform you that the negotiation of the *Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems* will resume at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, Italy the week of August 4th -8th. The objective of this meeting is to finalize the principles for subsequent submission to the CFS Plenary for final approval in October 2014.

Procedures: The negotiation will follow the rules and procedures established by the reformed CFS. The negotiation will be facilitated by the Open Ended Working Group Chair. The CFS Secretariat and the Technical Support Team will support the process as needed. The negotiation will be conducted in all official UN languages. Punctuality is required due to the schedule for interpretation. In the interest of time, the Chair asks all Members and Participants to abstain from making opening statements and to make all interventions short and concise, preferably with a concrete text proposal.

Format: The negotiation will begin with the remaining Principles (7-10) and will proceed with the section on Roles and Responsibilities, and conclude with the remaining paragraphs which were tabled in May. The proposed work modalities for the negotiation are as follows:

- The Chair will call for a first round of changes, amendments, or deletions which will be recorded by the scribes;
- Based on the first round, a Chair's Proposal will be made and the Chair will ask for agreement;
- If there is no agreement, the Chair will call for an additional round of interventions, which will be recorded by the scribes;
- Where no agreement is possible, the Chair will ask for a neutral Rapporteur to convene a Friends of the Chair Group to work in parallel with interested parties, as plenary continues;
- The Rapporteur will present the revised section in plenary for final agreement;
- Text discussed and approved in plenary will be marked by an asterisk. Text with asterisks will not be reopened by the Chair. There will be some flexibility where necessary for language discussed in subsequent sections to be inserted in already asterisked paragraphs, given the inter-linkages between the sections.

There will be two sessions per day Monday through Friday, and if necessary evening sessions Monday through Friday. Each session will last 3 hours, and will be translated in all official UN languages. The Secretariat will be present to answer technical questions about the document, and will also provide scribing services to capture amendments to the Principles.



Negotiation, August 4th-8th 2014

Provisional timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 – 12.00	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions
14.00 – 17.00	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions	Regular sessions
18.00 – 21.00	Possible Night sessions	Possible Night sessions	Possible Night sessions	Possible Night sessions	Possible Night sessions

Regular sessions

Possible Night sessions

- Location: Red Room
- Interpretation in all UN-languages will be provided for the Plenary sessions



Friends of the Chair: In May, each regional group, CSM, and PSM was asked to nominate at least one and up to three representatives who could serve as Rapporteurs for a Friends of the Chair Group. The Chair assumes that the same nominations apply for August, unless otherwise communicated. Any Member or Participant can join the Friends of the Chair Group. The Chair can ask for assistance from the Friends of the Chair Group as needed during the negotiation in order to reach agreement. The Friends of the Chair Group can work in parallel as plenary continues or during breaks. The Friends of the Chair Group may also address specific language harmonization issues, in which case Members and Participants with technical and/or legal backgrounds are encouraged to assist. Friends of the Chair Group working on language harmonization will ensure agreed language is consistent throughout the document and assist with reaching agreement on specific terms and language. All Friends of the Chair Group discussions will be held in English. Any consensus reached in the Friends of the Chair Group discussions will be presented in plenary in all official UN languages for adoption.

The Chair of the OEWG strongly urges Members and Participants to review the First Draft including the outcome of the May negotiation (version as of 24 May) and the Chair’s proposal on the Roles and Responsibilities section. All delegations are encouraged to arrive with clear instructions/mandate to agree on the Final Draft of the Principles. I am certain that you share my concern for the need to reach a successful conclusion to the negotiation of the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems, during the week of August 4th-8th .

Sincerely,



Ms. Christina Blank,
OEWG-RAI Chair