

CFS Bureau meeting

Date: 31 January 2018

German Room, FAO, 15:30 – 18:30

Bureau Meeting Outcomes

Agenda

1. CFS 45 Provisional Agenda and Timetable
2. CFS 45 Side Events Criteria and Guidance
3. CFS Evaluation – Response to the remaining recommendations
4. Concept note/Draft Agenda 1st event on Urbanization and Rural Transformation
5. Meeting on issues not addressed during the policy discussions on sustainable forestry
6. a. CFS Advisory Group reporting exercise – January-December 2017
b. Discussion on implementing response to CFS evaluation recommendation 4
7. Workstreams update and Budget update
8. Any other business

In opening the meeting, the Chair suggested that Alternates were allowed to fully participate. Bureau Members agreed.

1. CFS 45 Provisional Agenda and Timetable

The Bureau requested the CFS Chair to continue to explore opportunities for finding synergy with the FAO high level event on food security and nutrition agreed by Council. Ideally time will be found on Monday and/or Tuesday, preferably on both days, to maintain the highest possible profile and visibility of the Committee and to avoid having a session on Saturday morning. The Bureau stressed that as CFS and FAO, IFAD, WFP and the whole UN system are all working towards the same goal of ensuring food security and nutrition for all, ideally a consolidated approach could be found. Also clarification is needed as to whether SOFI will be included in the high level event.

The Bureau also agreed that ideally space should be found for a discussion on critical and emerging issues possibly supported by a note of the HLPE. Likewise, the HLPE report on Multistakeholder partnerships will be for discussion and decision, but the nature of the decision will be decided after the launch.

The Bureau also noted that it was important to allocate space for delegates from capital to make statements and this should be separated from the SOFI item. Also if we are aware of when SOFI is launched, delegates from capital could be given guidance in advance on their statements.

2. CFS 45 Side Events Criteria and Guidance

The Bureau approved the Guidance and Criteria on CFS 45 Side Events with the addition of requesting gender parity in panels and the involvement of youth where appropriate.

3. CFS Evaluation – Response to the remaining recommendations

The Bureau accepted FAO's suggestion of amending paragraph 6 of the document to reflect that CFS monitoring activities should take advantage of possible synergies with other systems, not only RBAs.

The Bureau agreed on the interest of having a holistic overview of how to implement the response to evaluation recommendations. The Bureau agreed on the following regarding the process to implement the response to all evaluation recommendations:

- Bureau to discuss in a holistic approach the implementation of response to all evaluation recommendations to provide guidance for the continuation of the process, in a format that has to be defined. The outcomes of this phase will then be discussed again in open evaluation meetings. This discussion is envisaged to take place in March or April 2018.
- Call for written inputs should be minimized as this approach may lose the richness of voices and inclusiveness of the process

4. Concept note/Draft Agenda 1st event on Urbanization and Rural Transformation

Bureau Members were reminded that this was the last opportunity for them to provide inputs concerning the concept note which will guide the work of the Technical Task Team towards the preparation of the intersessional events. Given the need to decide at the next Plenary on whether to continue and, if so, what to do after CFS 45, it was highlighted that it is key to define the CFS added value on this matter. It was also clarified that in case of lack of funding the events will be postponed.

5. Meeting on issues not addressed during the policy discussions on sustainable forestry

Based on the guidance provided at CFS 44, the Bureau once again noted that the organization of the event should not have an impact on the resources and workload of the Committee and simply was intended to provide a space for further discussion. In light of suggestions made in the joint meeting for a much more ambitious event, entailing significant planning and resources and possible implications for future MYPoWs, the Bureau felt there was a lack of shared understanding on the purpose and was concerned that moving forward at this point risked breaking trust with the Plenary.

The Bureau decided to postpone the decision on whether and when to hold this meeting to its first meeting after CFS 45.

6. a. CFS Advisory Group reporting exercise – January-December 2017

The Bureau felt that this matter had been sufficiently discussed during the joint meeting.

b. Discussion on implementing response to CFS evaluation recommendation 4

It was announced that some Members are working informally on a proposal that could be shared at the meeting on Monday 5 of February.

7. Workstreams update and Budget update

Bureau was informed that draft Terms of reference for the Nutrition OEWG will be presented at the first meeting scheduled for 28 March. With respect to the budget gap, questions were raised about the prioritization of activities in case sufficient funds were not secured.

8. AOB

For the future, a suggestion was made to re-consider the time allocation between the joint meeting and the Bureau meeting. It was underlined that the importance of the Bureau to take decisions should be maintained.

Annex 1: List of attendees

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Mario Arvelo (CFS Chair / Dominican Republic); Ms Fernanda Mansur Tansini (Brazil); Mr Xie Jianmin, Ms Jiani Tian, Mr Xu Yubo, Mr Huang Fei (China); Mr Luis Fernando Ceciliano (Costa Rica); Mr Khaled El-Taweel (Egypt); Mr Mitiku Tesso Jebessa (Ethiopia); Ms Esti Andayani, Mr Gustaf Daud Sirait (Indonesia); Ms Valentina Savastano (Italy); Mr Matthew Hooper (New Zealand); Ms Anna-Marie Moulton (South Africa); Mr Sid Ahmed Alamain (Sudan); Ms Liliane Ortega (Switzerland); Ms Emily Katkar, Ms Silvia Giovanazzi (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Nazareno Montani (Argentina); Ms Mi Nguyen (Canada); Mr Oliver Mellenthin (Germany); Ms Martine Garcia-Mascarenhas (Monaco).

Observers:

Ms Julia Vicioso, Ms Liudmila Kuzmicheva, Mr Paul Besana (Dominican Republic); Ms Alexandra Taralunga, Ms Martina Lecce (EU Delegation); Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard (France); Ms Viktoria Schuster (Hungary); Ms Angeles Gomez (Mexico); Ms Anne Verschoor (Netherlands); Mr Ilya Andreev (Russia); Ms Chiara Zannoni (San Marino).

CFS Secretariat:

Ms Deborah Fulton (Secretary), Mr Nathanael Pingault, Ms Cordelia Salter, Ms Françoise Trine, Mr Giammichele Di Maio, Ms Cherin Hoon, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Ophélie Hémonin, Ms Alessandra Gherardelli.