

CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

Date: 13 May 2020 (16:00 - 18:00)

Venue: virtual meeting (via ZOOM)

Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes

Agenda

1. COVID-19, Food Security and Nutrition: Responses by CFS Advisory Group Members to Avert a Global Food Crisis
2. Planning for the workstream on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
3. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise 2019
4. Any other business

1. COVID-19, Food Security and Nutrition: Responses by CFS Advisory Group Members to Avert a Global Food Crisis

CFS Chairperson, Mr Thanawat Tiensin, opened the 13 May virtual meeting and asked for approval of the provisional agenda.

Several Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members commended the CFS Chair and Secretariat for organizing a very informative and interesting open meeting on "COVID-19, Food Security and Nutrition" earlier that same day, with the active participation of several CFS (ad hoc and permanent) Advisory Group Members who had not had the opportunity to present their organizational responses to the pandemic at the 19 March CFS meeting focused on COVID-19.

Several members also expressed appreciation for the HLPE's Interim Issue Paper on COVID-19 and asked that the paper be updated to reflect new developments since 19 March when the paper was first presented. In this regard, the HLPE Steering Committee Chairperson informed that the 15th report of the HLPE – 2030 Global Narrative Report - will be publicly released at the end of June and will include a number of recommendations on coping with/respond to food security and nutrition challenges caused by the pandemic.

Some Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members requested that the CFS continue to address the pandemic in its work, and requested additional discussion within the Bureau on specific actions that might be undertaken, in this regard. The CFS Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members requested the CFS Secretariat to draft a short discussion paper for the 2/5 June Bureau meetings, and support the formation of an informal "Friends of the Chair" group from among Bureau members and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members to further explore this topic and to jointly prepare an options paper for discussion and decision at the July meetings of the Bureau. To initiate this process, the Secretariat will prepare a short discussion paper for discussion at the 2/5 June Bureau meetings. Members acknowledged that COVID-19 issues would be addressed in the HLPE's 2030 Synthesis Paper, in the two ongoing policy convergence processes and their respective texts, and would be discussed at CFS 47. Responding to a suggestion by a Bureau member to develop a COVID-19 "Global Policy Response" document for debate at CFS 47, several members cautioned against creating a new work-stream that could undermine the Committee's ability to fulfil its present Program of Work obligations.

One stakeholder group noted that the COVID-19 event held earlier that day had not been organized in consultation with the Bureau and Advisory Group and, hence, was not as inclusive as it might otherwise have been. Others noted the importance of opening CFS up to new, relevant stakeholder groups and organizations that are not actively participating in CFS activities, commending the CFS Chair and Secretariat for inviting prospective members of the CFS Advisory Group and journalists to the earlier meeting on COVID-19 responses.

2. Planning for the workstream on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

CFS Chair opened the discussion recalling the objective of the workstream (the development of Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the context of Food Systems and Nutrition) which will start after CFS 47. The Secretariat informed participants of plans to move the process forward in the coming weeks, including initiating the nomination process for, and appointment of, an Open-Ended Working Group Chairperson, and the formation of a Technical Task Team (TTT).

Several meeting participants stressed the importance of this workstream and indicated their interest in being part of the TTT (CGIAR, CSM, UNSCN). Spain confirmed its strong interest in supporting this workstream. Responding to questions about a FAO-contracted scoping paper related to gender issues, Bureau members will further discuss this issue at their meeting of 5 June.

3. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise 2019

Meeting participants discussed the annual reports submitted by members of the CFS Advisory Group which had been compiled by the CFS Secretariat into a single background document. Comments highlighted the importance of the monitoring exercises to foster the use and application of CFS policy tools. Others raised the issue of promoting stronger partnerships to boost the impact of CFS at country level.

In the context of a discussion on the openness and inclusivity of the CFS Advisory Group, CSM welcomed including the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) as a member of the CFS Advisory Group, within the "UN agencies" category. The PSM affirmed its commitment to broaden the participation of the private sector through the PSM, from small-scale producers to large businesses. The World Farmers' Organization (WFO) advocated for greater participation by farmers in the CFS Advisory Group to reflect the full diversity of farmers and farm groups.

4. Any other business

Nothing else was discussed.

Annex 1: Attendance list Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Thanawat Tiensin (CFS Chair / Thailand); Mr Felipe Carlos Antunes (Brazil); Mr Mario Arvelo, Ms Julia Vicioso, Ms Patricia Rodríguez, Ms Diana Infante (Dominican Republic); Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard, Mr Jean Guedon (France); Mr Bommakanti Rajender (India); Ms Nona Gae Luna, Ms Agnes Rosari (Indonesia); Ms Traore Halimatou Kone (Mali); Don Syme (New Zealand); Ilya Andreev (Russian Federation); Mr Sean Cox, Mr Paul Welcher (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Carlos Cherniak, Mr Nazareno Montani (Argentina); Ms Elsa Simoes (Cabo Verde); Ms Mi Nguyen (Canada); Mr Fernando Ceciliano, Mr Amarilli Vilegas, Mr Federico Zamora (Costa Rica); Mr Mohammad Hossein Emadi (Iran); Ms Hyojoo (South Korea); Mr Rafael Osorio, Ms Maria Abad (Spain); Tim Kränzlein (Switzerland).

Advisory Group:

Mr Máximo Torero, Mr Mark McGuire, (FAO); Mr Shantanu Mathur, Ms Jordana Blankman, Mr Sundeep Vaid (IFAD); Ms Stephanie Hochstetter, Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Mr Michael Fakhri, Ms Francesca Di Stefano (UN Special Rapporteur Right to Food); Ms Stineke Oenema, Alessandra Mora (UNSCN); Mr Rodney Cooke (CGIAR); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (Gates Foundation); Mr Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Ms Ramona Domicioiu, Ms Teresa Maisano, Ms Azra Sayeed, Ms Nettie Wiebe, Ms Nora McKeon, Mr Andre Luzzi (CSM); Mr Brian Baldwin, Ms Rosemary Navarrette, Robynne Anderson, Ms Ashleigh Schoonderbeek (PSM); Ms Astrid Jakobs de Padua (World Bank); Ms Giulia De Castro, Ms Luisa Volpe, Ms Arianna Giuliodori (WFO); Ms Marzella Wustefeld, Ms Katrina Lundberg (WHO).

Observers:

Ms Cristina Brovia (CSM); Ms Beatrice Argenti (EU delegation); Ms Silke Stralkamp (Germany); Ms Federica Veschi, Ms Supajit Sriariyawat (Thailand); Mr Martin Cole (HLPE Chairperson).

CFS Secretariat:

Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Ms Françoise Trine, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Waiganjo Njoroge, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Maryam Rahmanian, Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator), Ms Paola Termine.