



**CFS Youth Open-Ended Working Group meeting  
14 March 2022 – 14.00-17.00**

**CHAIR'S SUMMARY**

**1. Introductory remarks by the Rapporteur**

The meeting, interpreted in FAO's six official languages, was opened by the Rapporteur of the CFS Youth policy process, Ambassador Pio Wennubst, who expressed his appreciation for the interest and commitment shown by CFS stakeholders in this workstream.

OEWG members were reminded that the consultative process is now approaching its last phase and that this meeting, along with the call for feed-back on the Zero Draft, will be the last opportunities to provide suggestions and inputs on the document that will form the basis for negotiations starting in May.

**2. Exchange of feedback by OEWG members**

*The Zero Draft of the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems* was presented by the Rapporteur who underlined that the document has been prepared taking into account the many written contributions submitted by OEWG members concerning priority issues and policy relevant areas they feel should be addressed in the policy tool.

It was highlighted that the document mirrors the structure of the HLPE report and its five policy areas which are preceded by a "Rationale" section which presents the issues at stake, states the nature of the document, and provides an overview of the intended users of these policy recommendations.

The document was generally well received by OEWG members who welcomed the focused, concrete and action-oriented nature of the Zero Draft, which includes a wide range of applicable recommendations aimed at promoting the role of youth in agriculture and food systems.

CFS stakeholders presented a number of suggestions and ideas on how to further improve the document, underlined some of the areas that should be strengthened, and suggested additional material to be included in the Draft One for negotiations.

The Rapporteur and the CFS Secretariat took careful notes of all the feedback received, which will inform the preparation of the next version of the document. Additionally, OEWG members were reminded of the importance of submitting any additional input in writing to [cfs@fao.org](mailto:cfs@fao.org) by Friday 18 March. All inputs received will be posted on the CFS working space.



### **3. Next steps**

In line with the process Workplan agreed by the CFS Bureau, the Rapporteur and the CFS Secretariat will analyze the comments provided by OEWG members and circulate Draft One of the Policy Recommendations by 15 April (language versions will be made available by the end of April).

The first round of negotiations is scheduled for 30-31 May and 1 June, while the second round will take place 4-5-6 July.

The Rapporteur informed that the format of the negotiations will depend on FAO hosts and the epidemiological situation, and that as soon as there is information on this matter it will be shared with OEWG members.

A note on modalities for negotiations – which is about to be finalized by the Bureau – will be circulated soon among OEWG members. Official invitations for upcoming negotiations will be sent out in the coming weeks, after the release of Draft One.

OEWG members were reminded that if improvements are required in the translation of the English text into other languages, written comments/proposals will have to be sent to the CFS Secretariat who will forward them directly to the translators.

### **4. Wrap-up and closing remarks by Rapporteur**

Ambassador Wennubst closed the meeting acknowledging the wide range of inputs that were provided during the meeting and recalling that these will be used in preparing the next version of the document.