



## Workstreams and Activities Updates

**\*\*\*These updates cover the period since the 24 March 2023 CFS Bureau&Advisory and Bureau Meetings\*\*\***

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### **1. Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition:**

The Draft for Negotiations is expected to be released by 15 May 2023, in all UN official languages, incorporating the inputs received through the Open-Ended Working Group meetings and the written procedure. The First Round of Negotiations is scheduled from 29 May to 02 June, in hybrid modality. An invitation to register will be dispatched soon. All Regional Groups and CFS stakeholders are invited to actively participate.

### **2. Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment**

An advance version in English of the Draft for Negotiations of the *Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition* was circulated on 3 April and the language versions on 18 April. The Draft for Negotiations addressed the comments made at the OEWG meeting of 7 March and afterwards in writing (posted on the [Gender Webpage](#) under the 7 March OEWG meeting).

Other comments were received end of April on the Draft for Negotiations and are being posted on the [Gender Webpage](#) under the 5 May OEWG meeting.

A second OEWG meeting was held on 5 May. The objective was to better understand positions of CFS Members and Participants on the Draft for Negotiations before the start of the negotiations on 15 May 2023. The meeting was attended by over 30 Member States and many representatives of the Advisory Group. The Chair invited Members and participants to share views on the Draft for Negotiations and on selected contentious issues.

The negotiations will take place from 15 to 19 of May in hybrid format, in presence in the Green Room at FAO Headquarters and virtually through the Zoom Platform. All formal sessions will be interpreted in all UN languages. The schedule of the sessions is provided below. More information is provided on the [Gender Webpage](#).

Dates	Time (Rome time)
15 May	10:00-12:30; 14:00-16:30
16 May	10:00-12:30; 14:00-16:30
17 May	14:00-17:00
18 May	14:00-16:30; 17:00-19:30
19 May	10:00-12:30; 14:00-16:30

### **3. CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) for 2024-2027**

A Zero Draft of the CFS MYPoW 2024-2027 was shared with CFS stakeholders on 3 May to support deliberations at the OEWG on 17 May. The outcomes of this meeting, along with the written feedback on the Zero Draft received in written form by 22 May, will contribute to refining the framing of prioritized topics in the next phase of the MYPoW preparation process.

All relevant information and background documents, including workplan outlining next steps of the process are available in the [MYPoW-dedicated section](#) of the Working Space.

### **4. Monitoring the CFS policy recommendations on Price volatility, and Social Protection**

The [Call for inputs](#) issued through the Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) on the use and uptake of the CFS policy recommendations on *Price Volatility* and on *Social Protection* closed on 3 May 2023.

A total of 47 contributions were received for this year's call for inputs. Out of these, 30 provided relevant and complete information (through the requested template). These contributions will be used to inform the analysis presented in the *Summary Report*, which will serve as a background document for the monitoring item of the CFS 51 Plenary Session in October 2023.

### **5. High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (CFS HLPE-FSN)**

**HLPE-FSN report “Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems to achieve food security and nutrition in the context of urbanization and rural transformation”**

The [online consultation on the scope of the upcoming HLPE-FSN report on urban and peri urban food systems](#) was held on the FAO Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition platform from 1 March to 16

April 2023, and it received 96 contributions from 42 countries, diverse public and private organizations working in different fields of expertise, academia, civil society and other institutions.

The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee appointed the team leader, [Prof. Jane Battersby-Lennard](#), University of Cape Town, and together with Prof. Battersby-Lennard, selected the drafting team, ensuring diversity of required scientific competencies, as well as the best possible age, gender and geographical representation balance.

### **Meeting of the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee**

The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee held one of the biannual in-person meetings in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, between 28 and 31 March 2023, hosted by the CGIAR's International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). The meeting allowed to work on the upcoming report "Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition", to discuss and agree on internal working procedures and calendar, select the drafting team for the forthcoming report on urban and peri-urban food systems, discussing engagement with the other science-policy interfaces and on budget and communication issues.

The HLPE-FSN will continue joining efforts with the University of Montpellier-CIRAD and CGIAR to encourage collaboration between the intergovernmental science-policy interfaces (HLPE-FSN, IPBES, IPCC, UNCCD, One Health), following the series of events celebrated in 2022 and 2023. A joint event is expected to be held early 2024 following up to the one held in Montpellier on 8 March 2022 on the occasion of the CGIAR System Council Meeting **HLPE-FSN Steering Committee renewal**

The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee is to be renewed in 2023, for a 2-year term starting at the closure of the CFS 51<sup>st</sup> Plenary session in October 2023 and ending at the closure of the ordinary Plenary session in October 2025. The composition of the renewed Steering Committee, as proposed by the Ad-Hoc Technical Selection Committee (AHTSC), will be communicated to the CFS Bureau for decision at the at the Bureau meeting in June 2023.

## **6. Chair's engagements**

Chair continues engaging in intense outreach activities. On April 12 he chaired the session on Science and Food Security of the Informal Briefings to the General Assembly "Science-based solutions in support of sustainable development" held in New York, organized by the President of the UN General Assembly.

On April 13 he took part in a high-level panel debate at the IMF/WBG Spring Meetings, in Washington DC, on "Bridging the transition from food security response to food systems transformation".

On 18 April he delivered keynote remarks at an event celebrating the 2nd National Conference on the Human Right to Adequate Food in Uganda. This event was part of the celebrations towards the 20th Anniversary of the Guidelines on the Right to Food.

On 24 April, the CFS Chairperson provided the key note address (in virtual mode) for the session on 'Rethinking the global governance architecture for food systems' held during the 4<sup>th</sup> global conference of

the Sustainable Food Systems Programme in Vietnam on the “TRANSFORMATION WE NEED: Emerging from global crises by shaping sustainable, resilient, healthy, and inclusive food systems” .,

From 24 to 28 April, the CFS Chair participated in the 172nd FAO Council, where the report of CFS 50 was discussed.

The global food security crisis, the transformation of food systems, and the roles of the CFS were at the core of several other meetings which took place during this reporting period.

## **7. Communications and Outreach**

The Secretariat continued to drive targeted outreach activities to promote the work of CFS. The substantive segment of the 24 March Bureau and Advisory Group meeting on the “UN Biodiversity Conference (COP-15): implications on food systems” and on the “Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5)” was livestreamed on the CFS YouTube channel, and the recording is available [here](#). In April, the Secretariat also published its second quarterly newsletter of this year, which is available [here](#).

The Secretariat announced the dates of the 51st CFS Plenary session (CFS 51) on its various channels and launched a call for side events. The deadline for side event applications is [16 June 2023](#). More information on side events is available on the [CFS 51 webpage](#).

Visit the [CFS website](#), [YouTube channel](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for regular updates.