



Election of the CFS Chairperson - October 2023

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) at its 51st Session in October 2023 will elect its new Chairperson. Based upon CFS Rules of Procedure (Rule II, paragraph 2 and 4):

“2. The Chairperson shall be elected for a period of two years on a rotational basis among regions and on the basis of individual qualifications and experience relevant to the mandate of CFS. He or she shall not be eligible for election for two consecutive terms in the same office. His/her term of office shall expire at the end of the Committee meeting where the election of a new Chairperson is held.”

“4. Nominations of candidates for the election of the Chairperson shall be made by the government of a Member or by its delegate or representative and communicated to the CFS Secretary not later than 30 calendar days before the opening date of the session of the Committee at which the election of the Chairperson will take place. Any nomination reaching the CFS Secretary later shall not be considered as valid. nominations shall include the name of the proposed candidate and details of his/her qualifications and experience. The Secretary shall, within 5 working days from the closing date of the nomination period, communicate to the Members the nominations received.”

Past CFS chairs (since the 2009 reform), along with their respective terms, are listed below:

- Mr Noel De Luna (Philippines-ASIA) (2009-11)
- Mr Yaya Olaniran (Nigeria-AFRICA) (2011-13)
- Ms Gerda Verburg (The Netherlands-EUROPE) (2013-15)
- Ms Amira Gornass (Sudan-NEAR EAST) (2015-17)
- Mr Mario Arvelo (Dominican Republic-GRULAC) (2017-19)
- Mr Thanawat Tiensin (Thailand-ASIA) (2019-21)
- Mr Gabriel Ferrero (Spain-EUROPE) (2021-23)

The CFS 51 Session will take place from 23-27 October, 2023. Hence, any nominations for the CFS Chair position should reach the CFS Secretary (cfs@fao.org) at least 30 calendar days before the opening date of the 51st session – that is, no later than Friday 22 September 2023. Nominations must include the individual’s name and C.V. Subsequently, the CFS Secretariat will communicate any nominations received to CFS Members within five working dates from the date of closure of the nomination period - i.e. prior to 29 September 2023.