

CFS Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group meeting and CFS Bureau meeting

Dates: 11 September 2023

Time: 09:30 -12:30 and 14:00 - 17:00

Virtual/Hybrid meetings (Zoom Platform + German Room)

Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes with Bureau decisions

Agenda 11 September 2023

Bureau and Advisory Group and Bureau agenda items

- A. Presentation of the outcomes of the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition**
 - 1. CFS 51 Preparation Update (BurAG item 1 /Bur Item 1)**
 - 2. CFS Inequalities – Draft Workplan and appointment of the Rapporteur (BurAG Items 2 /Bur Item 2)**
 - 3. Preliminary discussion on CFS in-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes (BurAG Items 3)**
 - 4. Strengthening the participation of key stakeholders at CFS: Parliamentarians, Local Authorities, and the UN Decade on Family Farming (BurAG Item 4)**
 - 5. Concluding the “Implications of the UNFSS on the CFS” reflection process (BurAG Item 5)**
 - 6. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise (BurAG Item 6)**
 - 7. Any other business (BurAG Item 7/Bur Item 3)**

First, the CFS Chairperson, Ambassador Gabriel Ferrero y de Loma-Osorio, of Spain, opened the Bureau and Advisory Group (BurAG) provided an overview and an introduction of the thematic segment “Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition”, held in Valparaiso (Chile), in June.

Second, the CFS Chairperson outlined the provisional agenda for the meeting, which was adopted. Lastly, participants were informed that the meeting would be recorded, as per usual practice, for the Secretariat’s note-taking purposes.

A. Presentation of the outcomes of the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition

The CFS Chair introduced this item by reflecting on his participation at the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition which was held in Valparaiso, Chile, on 15 and 16 June 2023, where he delivered remarks at the opening and closing sessions. He commended the Parliamentarians for their efforts in implementing legislation on matters related to food and nutrition security, as well as their contributions to generate broader political support and commitments for actions towards improved food security and nutrition.

Dr Marcela Villareal, Director of FAO Partnership and UN Collaboration Division, shared a presentation on the outcomes of the Summit (available on the CFS Website).

The Summit saw the participation of around 200 parliamentarians, 15 presidents and vice-presidents of national, sub-regional and regional parliaments and parliamentary bodies from 64 countries. The President of the Republic of Chile, Gabriel Boric, attended the Opening Ceremony.

The main outcome of the Summit is marked by the approval of the Global Parliamentary Pact. This is the first global parliamentary set of commitments to the progressive realization of the right to food, agri-food systems transformation and the achievement of the SDGs.

The Pact demonstrates the strong political commitment by parliamentarians to the fight against hunger and malnutrition which builds on the efforts from the first Global Parliamentary Summit held in Madrid in 2018. Further, the ‘Pact’ highlights the efforts made by parliamentarians to work for a transformation towards agrifood systems that are sustainable, inclusive, equitable, resilient, and to measure progress of their actions.

The ‘Pact’ also requests FAO to assist further development of technical ways to support the implementation of the ‘Pact’ itself; it calls on international partners, institutions, and donors to support the efforts emerging as a result of the ‘Pact’, and requests to hold the third global summit no later than 2026 in Africa.

The FAO’s Director of Partnerships highlighted that the ‘Pact’ also includes a direct request to the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to establish a mechanism for the representation of parliamentarians fighting hunger and malnutrition which would allow them to participate in the CFS sessions. In this regard, the CFS Chair, reminded participants that in its intervention during the Summit, he stated that “Parliamentarians should have a space in the CFS, it is above all an opportunity”. He also noted that the involvement of the Parliamentarian constituency and their networks in the work of CFS would contribute to the uptake of CFS outcomes, as they would better influence national legislation and monitoring of public policies.

During the open discussion, some participants of the BurAG meeting highlighted the importance of parliamentarians to develop ‘model-laws’, drawing from CFS agreements, or their role towards an explicit recognition of the right to food into national constitutions.

1. CFS 51 Preparation Update

The CFS Chairperson highlighted the work of the Secretariat in preparation for CFS 51 and underscored the importance of the Guide to CFS 51 as the reference document for all delegations to prepare for the plenary, understanding the objectives and the rollouts of each session during the week.

The CFS Chairperson encouraged all delegations to register, recalling the deadline of 15 September to register for the session. In this regard, he underscored the importance to promptly inform the Secretariat of any high-level delegate that will attend and would like to intervene at CFS 51, to afford them with priority protocol consideration on the list of speakers.

Lastly, the CFS Chairperson recalled three important tasks of the next Plenary: a. the election of the CFS Chairperson; b. the election of the new CFS Bureau; and c. the nomination of the Drafting Committee for CFS 51; and referred to an email sent by the CFS Secretariat on 2nd August 2023 that outlines the processes and the respective deadlines for these elections.

The CFS Secretariat provided complimentary information on the side-events.

A revised version of the CFS 51 Provisional Agenda and Provisional Timetable are available on the CFS 51 website.

CSIPM requested that the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food be added on the list of speakers for the session on policy coordination; and a rural woman be included as keynote speaker during the session on gender, also to continue the tradition to celebrate the international day of rural women. The CFS Chairperson noted that the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food will feature as a speaker during the session on “Strengthening Coordinated Policy Responses to the Food Crisis – The SOFI 2023”, as well as during the Special Event. The Chairperson also informed that a rural woman has been invited to address the Plenary at the endorsement of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on GEWE.

2. CFS Inequalities – Draft Workplan and appointment of the Rapporteur (with Bureau discussion).

The CFS Secretariat presented the draft workplan for the upcoming policy workstream on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition.

It was highlighted that two meetings will be held before the finalization of the Zero Draft to give OEWG members the possibility to provide indications and preferences on elements and policy areas that should be included in the document. In this regard, it was suggested to avoid overlaps and duplication of previously agreed CFS policy outcomes and that, for the preparation of the Zero Draft, other relevant technical background papers on this matter be considered apart from the HLPE-FSN Report.

It was requested that enough space be allowed between the two rounds of negotiations, and that these do not clash with other meetings in the RBAs calendar.

It was suggested that the policy recommendations resulting from the policy converge process address the needs of people on the ground and that they inform concrete actions at country level.

It was clarified that, in line with Annex B of the CFS Evaluation Implementation Report, the decision to establish a technical task team (including its composition, mandate and task) is expected to be taken by the CFS Bureau and to be reflected in the workplan.

A Member asked whether the approval of the workplan could be postponed to after CFS 51, in order to reflect the outcomes of Plenary's discussions on this subject.

The CFS Chair noted the need for the CFS Bureau to appoint a Rapporteur before CFS 51 to allow the kick-starting of the process shortly after the plenary.

Bureau decision

The CFS Bureau approved 'in principle' the Draft Workplan of the CFS Workstream on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition as presented by the CFS Secretariat. The Bureau also agreed that the workplan will again be presented for approval at the first Bureau meeting after CFS 51 to give new Bureau Members the possibility to discuss it and possibly update it based on the outcomes of the Plenary's discussions.

The CFS Bureau noted the importance of submitting nominations for the chairmanship of this policy workstream at the earliest.

3. Preliminary discussion on CFS in-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes.

A preliminary discussion on the upcoming CFS workstream focused on how to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes took place.

The CFS Chairperson pointed out that while the MYPoW had not yet been adopted by the Plenary, a preliminary discussion how to organize the workstream on the uptake of CFS policy agreements was important in order to work as time-efficiently as possible.

Responding to the set of guiding questions that were prepared by the Secretariat to guide the discussion, Bureau and Advisory Group members reiterated their support for this workstream, and recognized the relevance and importance of this process.

Preliminary ideas on how to organize the workstream were presented. These included a survey, the integration of outside perspectives, the involvement of capitals on the deliberations and a suggestion to work on the basis of concrete examples.

Suggestions on how to improve the uptake ranged from a more concise, end-user driven and inclusive elaboration of policy agreements to better financing mechanisms incentivizing the implementation of CFS policy agreements.

Bureau members were informed that an informal open meeting will take place on 30 November to give the opportunity to CFS stakeholders to analyse the objectives of this exercise, share expectations, identify areas that should be addressed, and discuss roles and responsibilities of different actors.

The draft workplan will be presented for discussion, and approval, at the first Bureau and Advisory Group meeting taking place after CFS 51.

4. Strengthening the participation of key stakeholders at CFS: Parliamentarians, Local Authorities, and the UN Decade on Family Farming.

Introducing this item, the CFS Chair noted the links between this agenda item, the thematic discussion, and the request expressed by Parliamentarians to be part of the CFS.

Likewise, the CFS Chairperson underscored the relevance for CFS of strengthening the engagement with other two groups that have already been ad hoc participants of the CFS during the last biennium: representatives of local authorities (UCLG) and family farmers (UNDFP).

The CFS Chairperson also highlighted the relevance of these three stakeholders for the implementation of the new MYPoW 2024-2027 and its impact, whose draft includes, among others, workstreams on uptake, on family farmers and on urban food systems.

In his conclusions, the CFS Chairperson suggested that Parliamentarians, Local Authorities and Family Farmers' Associations be given full rights as participants in the new Advisory Group for the duration of the MYPoW.

While recognizing the merit of the suggestion by the Chairperson and agreeing on the value of including Parliamentarians as part of national delegations attending CFS plenary sessions, several Bureau Members asked for more time to discuss this proposal and get necessary clarifications. The deliberations on this matter will resume after CFS 51.

5. Concluding the “Implications of the UNFSS on the CFS” reflection process

The CFS Chairperson recalled the provisions agreed at CFS 49 to further analyse and consider the implications of the UNFSS on the CFS and its HLPE-FSN; and the work done by an inclusive Group of Friends of the Chair, who met several times between October 2021 and June 2022.

Further, the CFS Chairperson recalled that, at its last meeting, the Group of Friends was presented with an “Options Paper” from which the CFS Plenary, the Bureau, and the Chairperson may draw for increasing and optimizing the synergies between the UNFSS and the CFS. The CFS Chairperson presented that “Options Paper”, which had been circulated as background document for the BurAG meeting, and sought comments, with the intention to report back to CFS 51 Plenary with a revised “Options Paper” to be presented as an Information Document.

During the discussion, while some Bureau Members expressed the complementarity of the CFS and the UNFSS and supported the CFS Chairperson's participation at the UNFSS Stocktaking Moment, held in July, other Bureau Members requested more time to discuss the “Options Paper”. The deliberations on this matter will resume after CFS 51.

The CFS Chair concluded this item by informing that the “Options Paper” will not be presented to the Plenary, yet it will be part of his handover to the new Chairperson and Bureau for him/her to continue the process on strengthening the collaboration between the UNFSS, its Hub, and the CFS. The CFS Chair will share the document with the UNFSS Coordination Hub Coordinator and the UNDSG, as a Chairperson's summary.

6. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise

This item was postponed to a future meeting as time did not allow for invited Advisory Group members to make their presentations.

7. AOB

The CFS Chairperson informed about his most recent and future engagements to promote the CFS and its policy agreements. He recalled his participation in the Africa Food Systems Summit, in Tanzania, and informed about his participation at the SDGs Summit, at the Second Summit of the Islamic Organization for Food Security.

He also referred to the forthcoming workshop to be convened by the University of Montpellier on strengthening the connection between the science-policy interfaces of UN intergovernmental bodies. The Chair of the HLPE will also attend this event.

Bureau Members sought clarifications on various issues:

- a) The process for filling the position of the CFS Secretary;
- b) The rollout of the session on Global Interlinkages at CFS 51; and
- c) The rollout of the session on Monitoring.

CFS Chairperson informed, based on consultations with FAO Senior Management, that interviews for filling the position of the CFS Secretary are planned for the end of this month.

As for the session on Global Interlinkages, the CFS Chairperson informed that this session would offer an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the SDGs Summit, the 2024 Summit of the Future, updates on the National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation, and the interlinkages between food, climate, biodiversity and the environment.

With regards, to the session on Monitoring, the CFS Secretariat confirmed that the rollout will allow for an interactive dialogue among Members and Participants.

Annex 1: Attendance list Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Gabriel Ferrero (CFS Chair/Spain); Ms Antonietta Patricelli (Angola); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Mr Hanghao Li (China); Ms Berioska Morrison, Ms Moira Vargas (Dominican Republic); Mr Steven Bonnin (Germany); Ms Jenny Reid (New Zealand); Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland); Mr Sean Cox, Ms Ronit Gerard (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Maarten De Groot (Canada); Mr Purna Cita Nugraha, Ms Erma Rheindayani (Indonesia); Ms Yvonne van Laarhoven (Netherlands); Ms Ekaterina Vybornova (Russian Federation); Mr Barend Jacobus Lombard (South Africa).

Advisory Group:

Ms Marcela Villarreal, Ms Anna Rappazzo, Mr Guilherme Brady (FAO); Mr Mikael Kattau, Ms Elena Bertusi (IFAD); Mr Marco Cavalcante, Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Mr James Garrett (CGIAR); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (Gates Foundation); Ms Ludovica Donati (PFM); Ms Hala Barakat, Ms Betsy Diaz, Ms Nora McKeon, Ms Mariam Mohammad, Mr Luca Bianchi, Ms Giulia Simula, Ms Marion Girard Cisneros, Mr Andre Luzzi, Ms De Woods (CSIPM); Ms Rosemary Navarrete, Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM); Ms Paola De Meo, Ms Nevine Soliman (SR RtF); Ms Giulia De Castro (WFO); Ms Marjolein Smit Mwanamwenge (WHO).

Observers:

Mr Matthijs van Huijgevoort (EU).

CFS Secretariat:

Mr Günter Hemrich, Ms Bahar Zorofi, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Raquel Morato, Mr Evariste, Ms Paola Termine, Ms Silvia Meiattini, Ms Louna Hardan (HLPE-FSN Secretariat).

Annex 2: Attendance list Bureau meeting

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Gabriel Ferrero (CFS Chair/Spain); Ms Antonietta Patricelli (Angola); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Mr Hanghao Li (China); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt); Ms Berioska Morrison, Ms Moira Vargas (Dominican Republic); Mr Oliver Mellenthin, Mr Steven Bonnin (Germany); Mr Cheikh Oubey Mohamed Lemine (Mauritania); Ms Jenny Reid (New Zealand); Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland); Mr Sean Cox, Ms Ronit Gerard (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Maarten De Groot (Canada); Sahia Albazzaz (Kuwait); Ms Yvonne van Laarhoven (Netherlands); Ms Ekaterina Vybornova (Russian Federation); Mr Barend Jacobus Lombard (South Africa).

Observers:

Mr Matthijs van Huijgevoort (EU).

CFS Secretariat:

Mr Günter Hemrich, Ms Bahar Zorofi, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Raquel Morato (CFS Secretariat), Mr Evariste, Ms Paola Termine (HLPE-FSN Secretariat).