

**\*\*\*These updates cover the period since the 24 January 2023 CFS Bureau and Advisory Group Meetings\*\*\***

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### **1. High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)**

The CFS contribution to the 2023 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was submitted to the President of ECOSOC, H.E. Lachezara Stoeva, and the UNDESA Secretariat on Wednesday, on 1 March 2023, and shared with the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group members on 2 March.

The CFS inputs are posted on the [HLPF website](#), and also already available on the CFS [working space](#).

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

Following Bureau's decision on 26 January to include a session on the use and uptake of the CFS policy recommendations on Food Price Volatility and on Social Protection at CFS 51, a [call for inputs](#) on the use and application of these two sets of policy recommendations was launched through the Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition (FSN Forum), on 1 February 2023, closing on 3 May 2023.

The dissemination of this call, available in all UN languages, is encouraged among the relevant constituencies to contribute to a successful monitoring session.

### **3. Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition**

A Friends of the Chair's (FoC) meeting was held on 8 February. The objective of this first FoC meeting was to discuss the working method and ways forward to finalize the *CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition*, in view of their endorsement at CFS 51 in October 2023. The meeting was very well attended by over 40 Member States and many representatives of the Advisory Group. At this meeting, the Chair introduced a proposed approach to address contentious issues under the renewed process and outlined next steps to finalize the Guidelines. Other Friends of the Chair's meetings will be convened as necessary.

The advance version in English of the renewed draft of the Guidelines was shared on 24 February. The language versions were posted by 3 March. The Table with proposed solutions to contentious issues that was already discussed at the FoC meeting has also been posted in all languages on the [CFS Website](#) together with the Workplan to finalize the Guidelines.

An OEWG meeting was held on 7 March in the WFP Auditorium (14.00 – 17.00). The objective was to discuss the renewed draft of the Guidelines and the Workplan. All members were invited to provide written comments on the renewed draft by 24 March.

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

The third Open-Ended Working Group will meet on 23 March 2023, to discuss the First Draft of the Policy Recommendations on “Strengthening data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition”. CFS Members and stakeholders are then invited to submit their comments on the First Draft by 14 April 2023.

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

The first CFS MYPoW Open Meeting took place on Friday 3 March 2023. The objective was to facilitate an initial discussion on the Preliminary Proposals concerning CFS thematic workstreams, primarily associated with outputs 1.1 (inclusive discussions) and 2.1 (global policy guidance), or a combination of both.

With regard to the next steps of the process, CFS stakeholders are invited to provide written feedback on the content of the existing preliminary proposals, suggestions on potential merging and consolidation between different proposals as well as initial indications on their preferred topics by 15 March.

Proponents are encouraged to identify clusters of proposals on similar topics and establish a dialogue with other proponents and provide merged and consolidated proposals by the deadline of 20 March. The CFS Secretariat stands ready to facilitate the process as well as to support and assist proponents in the preparation of consolidated proposals.

Based on the inputs received, after 20 March the CFS Secretariat will prepare a prioritized list of proposals, which will be presented for discussion at the Bureau and the Advisory Group on 14 April. The same day, the Bureau will then finalize this list, which will be shared with all CFS stakeholders to inform deliberations at the second OEWG on 17 May.

Relevant information and background documents are available on the [CFS MYPoW-dedicated working space](#).

#### **6. Chairperson’s Engagements**

Chair continues engaging in intense outreach activities. In February, upon an invitation from His Excellency M. Fesneau, Minister of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty of France, he visited the Salon International de l’ Agriculture, in Paris, where he had the opportunity to meet with several ministers to discuss the impact of the food crisis and the responses, including with the Minister for Livestock and Animal Production of Senegal; Minister for Agriculture of Liberia; Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development of Ivory Coast; Minister of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty of France; and with the State Secretary to the Minister for Rural Affairs of Sweden.

The global food security crisis was at the core of several meetings also back in Rome, where he met with the Minister for Agriculture of Somalia; the Minister for Agriculture of Libya; the Director for Food Security at Global Affairs Canada; the UN Deputy Secretary General; the Secretary General of UNCTAD; and the new UN Coordinator for the Joint Coordination Centre of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

With the Minister for International Cooperation of Egypt, the CFS Chair discussed the issues of climate and gender, and the possibility to organize a moment 'from Sharm El-Sheikh to Dubai' during CFS 51.

During the week of 7 March, the CFS Chair was in New York to discuss the global food crisis with the President of the UN General Assembly, and to participate in the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which is debating of the Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.

## **7. Communications and Outreach**

The Secretariat continued to drive targeted outreach activities to promote the work of CFS. Five more interviews with CFS stakeholders, recorded during CFS 50 in October 2022, were produced and disseminated via the website and social media channels as part of the [#CFSConversations thought leadership series](#).

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