

VG ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION
REVISED DOCUMENT

EU Member States written comments (Deadline 24 March 2023)

		EU Member States position
Parts Para Nb	Revised CFS Chair Proposal	
		General comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We appreciate the efforts made by the CFS Chair in revising the draft with a view to taking on board different views and sensitivities and improving the chances of concluding this workstream successfully. • We continue to believe that the VG will be an important tool to inspire and guide governments and other stakeholders engaged in gender equality and in the fight against food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition, in particular in view of the global challenges affecting us all. • While we have continued high ambitions, considering the challenges witnessed so far in finalising the VG and the need to deliver a useful product, we can support the proposed pragmatic principle of 'no step backward, no step forward', leaning on agreed language. In this view, we should not re-opening already agreed ad-referendum paragraphs in order to ensure constructiveness and efficiency of the negotiation process. • We therefore should keep the formulation "gender transformative approaches" (GTA) throughout in the text. • We further insist on using of the term "sexual and gender based violence" SGBV as much as possible but can accept "gender based violence" in certain paras (see below).
	Comment on moving down section on (S)GBV from 3.3 to 3.9	<i>We can accept the proposal of moving the section, while stressing the preference of keeping SGBV</i>
PART 1	INTRODUCTION	
Part 1.1	BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE	
4.	<p>Currently, the global food system produces enough food to feed every person on the planet. However, due to a range of challenges, an increasing number of people in both rural and urban areas are failing to realize their right to adequate food as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and meet their daily food and nutritional needs. Gender-based discrimination and inequality result in women and girls often being the worst affected by food insecurity and various forms of malnutrition^[1]. The Gender gap in food insecurity, which had grown in 2020 under the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, widened even further in 2021, exacerbating inequality and disproportionately affecting women and girls^[2], in particular among Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, displaced persons and refugees, and older women. In this challenging global context, addressing gender inequality and achieving the realization of women's and girls' rights is urgent and more important than ever to achieve food security and nutrition for all. [1] Malnutrition includes undernutrition (child stunting and wasting, and vitamin and mineral deficiencies) as well as overweight and obesity. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022 (SOFI 2022) - Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable, FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. [2] SOFI 2022.</p>	
5.	<p>A growing body of evidence demonstrates the mutually reinforcing links between GEWGE and food security and nutrition. Supporting the rights and empowerment of all women and girls, particularly those in vulnerable situations, is also one of the most effective ways to improve food security and nutrition outcomes for all and to lower infant mortality, reduce child malnutrition and prevent non communicable diseases. These are central to break intergenerational cycles of malnutrition, with special attention to the nutritional needs of women at reproductive age, during pregnancy and breastfeeding and children under two years of age.</p>	<i>We propose a small adjustment to the wording: "These are central to break intergenerational cycles of malnutrition, with special attention to the nutritional needs of women and girls at reproductive age, during pregnancy and breastfeeding and children under two years of age."</i>
6.	<p>GEWGE are essential to poverty reduction, economic growth, social wellbeing, sustainable management of natural resources, climate change adaptation and mitigation and ecosystem and biodiversity protection and conservation. Achievement of gender equality is positively correlated with increased production and improved efficiency in many sectors – including in agriculture in a context where small-scale and family farming is increasingly feminized – whereas inequality and discrimination in access to, and control over, resources continue to undermine economic development, leading to below-potential economic outcomes. Women play active roles as agents in food systems as farmers, producers, peasants, family farmers, fisherfolks and pastoralists, processors, traders, wage-workers, smallholders and entrepreneurs throughout food systems and value chains, and as consumers and providers for their family. Agriculture includes crops, forestry, fisheries, livestock, and aquaculture. UNGA Resolution A/RES/74/242. Paragraph 20.</p> <p>The cost of the gender gap in agricultural productivity, UN Women, World Bank Group, UNEP and UNDP, 2015.</p>	

7.	<p>Despite progress made over decades, women and girls in a variety of conditions, particularly those in vulnerable and marginalized situations, continue to face violence and discrimination, and inequality across the world, manifested through multiple challenges. These include barriers to decision-making processes; unequal access to, and control over, key productive resources, assets, technologies, education and financial services, and economic opportunities; unequal access to social protection; unbalanced and unrecognized responsibilities in terms of unpaid care and domestic work; limited access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences. These all contribute to food insecurity and malnutrition, negatively impacting various pillars of food security: availability, access, utilization and stability, creating barriers to food system inclusiveness, innovation and sustainability and limiting women's agency and preventing them from benefitting equally. Part 3 explores these challenges and offers strategic entry points for change.</p>	<p>Despite progress made over decades, women and girls in a variety of situations conditions, particularly those in vulnerable and marginalized situations, continue to face violence and discrimination, and inequality across the world, manifested through multiple challenges. These include barriers to decision-making processes; unequal access to, and control over, key productive resources, assets, technologies, education and financial services, and economic opportunities; unequal access to social protection; unbalanced and unrecognized responsibilities in terms of unpaid care and domestic work; limited access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences. These all contribute to food insecurity and malnutrition, negatively impacting various pillars of food security: availability, access, utilization and stability, creating barriers to food system inclusiveness, innovation and sustainability and limiting women's agency and preventing them from benefitting equally. Part 3 explores these challenges and offers strategic entry points for change.</p>
Part 1.2	OBJECTIVES	
9.	<p>the Guidelines will provide concrete policy guidance based on good practices and lessons learnt on gender mainstreaming (8), gender-responsive public policies, programmes and innovative solutions. They aim to drive transformative change and promote gender-responsive approaches, improving legal and policy frameworks, institutional arrangements, national plans and programmes, and promoting innovative partnerships and increased investments in human and financial resources that are conducive to promoting GEWGE. [8 Gender mainstreaming is defined in the ECOSOC agreed conclusions 1997/2]</p>	<p><i>In line with our general stand, we should not reopen the already agreed para and keep the reference to gender transformative approaches.</i></p>
Part 1.3 Nature of the VG and their intended users		
15	<p>The Guidelines are complementary to and support national, regional and international initiatives which aim at addressing all forms of discrimination against women and girls, which negatively impact their food security and nutrition. In particular, CFS guidance builds upon, integrates and complements existing multilaterally agreed upon instruments adopted on this topic within the context of the UN system.</p>	
16	<p>c) International and local civil society organizations, including women's, women's rights', farmers' and small-scale food producers', landless, pastoralists', peasants', fisher-folks', migrant workers', and consumers' organizations, professional associations, trade unions including domestic, rural and agricultural workers, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities;</p>	<p><i>We can support the inclusion of the reference to "peasants". We would also propose to include reference to "family farmers" and "smallholders", as in paragraph 6.</i></p>
PART 2 Part 2		
17.	<p>The Guidelines are intended to be applied, consistent with the following instruments as far as each of these instruments are relevant and applicable and as far as they have been agreed, acknowledged and/or endorsed by respective Member States:</p>	

17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015); •ECOSOC – AC 1997/2 – Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations System; •Universal Declaration of Human Rights – adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948; •International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; •International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; •Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), including the General Recommendation 34; •Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD); •Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); •Convention against Torture and other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT); •UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), 13 September 2007; •UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas, 28 September 2018 (UNDROP); •UNGA Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, 28 July 1951; •UNGA Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; •ILO Conventions 100, 111, 156, 169, 183, and 190; •ILO Resolution concerning Gender Equality at the Heart of Decent Work, 17 June 2009; •ILO Resolution concerning the Promotion of Gender Equality, Pay Equity and Maternity Protection, 8 December 2008; •Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 2417; •Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995, and its review conferences; •International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, the ICPD Programme of Action and its review conferences; •United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); •UN Decade of Action for Nutrition 2016-2025; •UN Decade for Family Farming 2019-2028. 	
The core principles that underpin the Guidelines are:		
20	<p>Non-discrimination: No one should be subjected to any form of discrimination under law and policies as well as in practice. States should undertake the primary responsibility to ensure the equal right of all persons to the enjoyment of all human rights contained in the UDHR regardless of their gender, while acknowledging differences between them and taking specific temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality as appropriate.</p>	<p>Non-discrimination: No one should be subjected to any form of discrimination under law and policies as well as in practice. States should undertake the primary responsibility to ensure the equal right of all persons to the enjoyment of all human rights contained in the UDHR regardless of sex their gender, while acknowledging differences between them and taking specific temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality as appropriate.</p>
21	<p>Empowerment of all women and girls. The Guidelines rest integrally on supporting the empowerment of all women and girls, recognizing them as rights-holders, agents of change and leaders. They build on the positive relationship between women’s and girls’ empowerment and achieving food security and nutrition. They recommend actions to promote women’s and girls’ agency and autonomy, individually and collectively, participating actively and meaningfully in decision-making to control their own lives and to strengthen strategic choices affecting their lives and livelihoods as well as their communities and societies.</p>	
22	<p>Tackling structural barriers to gender equality. The Guidelines promote the application of innovative gender approaches that challenge and tackle both the symptoms– including women’s restricted access to land, financial services and other productive resources - and the structural causes of gender inequality, including discriminatory laws, policies, social norms, attitudes, harmful customary practices and gender stereotypes, for more sustainable food systems for all. This requires the collective engagement of all, including men and boys, as well as local and traditional authorities, recognizing and respecting leadership of women and girls, to strengthen joint responsibility and commitment for successful transformation of unequal power relations between men and women.</p>	

23	<p>(New principle)Country ownership. The Guidelines are to be implemented taking into account each country’s development priorities and specific context. They are intended to be interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities.</p>	<p>We recall the first the principle of the VG stating that they should be implemented globally. At the same time, the VG need to take into account different contexts and realities. Therefore, we propose to take forward the already agreed language (VGFSyN paras 34 and 39), as follows: Country ownership. The Guidelines are intended to be global in scope and to provide guidance to governments and relevant stakeholders when designing context-specific policies, laws, regulatory frameworks, strategies, plans and programmes. They should be implemented within countries and at regional and global levels, taking into account each country’s development priorities and specific context. They are intended to be interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. They are intended to be interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions.</p>
26	<p>Multidimensional approaches. The Guidelines recognize that women and girls often experience multiple forms of discriminations simultaneously based on, <i>inter alia</i> , race, colour, sex, age, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability or other status which affect their food security and nutrition outcomes. The Guidelines promote a multidimensional and integrated approach that address these interrelated and mutually reinforcing characteristics. Notably, women and girls in Indigenous Peoples’ communities, local communities, women and girls with disabilities, as well as older women are often particularly marginalized and disadvantaged also in the context of food security and nutrition.</p>	
29	<p>Inclusiveness and participation in policy- and law-making processes. The Guidelines foster policies, legal frameworks and practices that promote the full, equal and meaningful participation of all women and girls, including those in vulnerable situations [9], Indigenous women and women- led organizations, including women’s rights organizations and social movements, while respecting plurality in the development and implementation of policies and laws. [footnote 9] Women in vulnerable situations most often include, among others, pregnant and lactating women, women of reproductive age, and adolescent girls, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, Indigenous women, migrants, refugees and displaced persons.)</p>	<p>The Guidelines foster policies, legal frameworks and practices that promote the full, equal and meaningful participation of all women and girls, including those in vulnerable situations[9], Indigenous women and women- led organizations, including women’s rights organizations and social movements, while respecting plurality in the development and implementation of policies and laws. Indigenous women and women- led organizations, including women’s rights organizations and social movements, while respecting plurality in the development and implementation of policies and laws. [9] Women in vulnerable situations most often include, among others, pregnant and lactating women, women of reproductive age, and adolescent girls, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, Indigenous women, women migrants, women refugees and displaced women.</p>
PART 3		
PART 3.1 Cross-cutting recommendations		
31.	(ii) Implement, strengthen or introduce legislation promoting non-discrimination and gender equality for all women, men, girls and boys.	
31.	(iii) Ensure equal access to justice and legal assistance so that all women and girls have their rights protected, including the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, and on issues related to property, in particular land tenure, in rural and urban areas, inheritance and financial services.	
32.	(i) Design and implement public policies and programmes based on country-specific and country-owned gender assessments guided by gender inclusive and participatory analyses and approaches, taking into account different national contexts, necessities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities.	
32.	(ii) Promote men’s and boys’ engagement as allies, actors and participants in processes and strategies aiming at addressing the structural barriers to gender equality. Their active involvement is essential for successful transformation of unequal power relations and discriminatory social systems, institutions, structures and norms. Promote and give more visibility to positive participation of men and boys.	
32.	(vi) Ensure adequate financial, technical and human resources, supported by political commitment and public policies that promote an enabling environment to generate social, economic and cultural changes with specific transformative and gender-responsive policies, programmes and institutions. Measures to support gender-responsive budgeting should be put in place and implemented where possible.	<p><i>In line with our general stand, we should not reopen the already agreed para and keep the reference to gender transformative approaches.</i></p>

32.	(vii) Undertake strategic and comprehensive communications on gender mainstreaming and a gender perspective in national agriculture and food systems including investment opportunities[12], where appropriate and applicable. [12] FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-31, endorsed by Conference in June 2021.	
PART 3.2 Women's and girls' food security and nutrition		
36.	Empowerment of all women and girls for improved food security and nutrition for all There is evidence[14] that women's and girls' empowerment is a pathway to improved nutrition and wellbeing for the entire household, in both rural and urban areas, and also evidence of positive links between women's empowerment and child and maternal health. [14] SOFI 2021: e.g. p. 93 and p.104.	
38.	Conventional approaches to nutrition education tend to reinforce existing gender roles, focusing on women's roles as mothers and caregivers of young children and often ignoring boys and men in nutrition education programmes. Nutrition education should support transformative and gender-responsive approaches that challenge harmful gender norms.	<i>In line with our general stand, we should not reopen the already agreed para, and keep the reference to gender transformative approaches.</i>
PART 3.3 Women's and girls' full, equal and meaningful participation, voice and leadership in policy- and decision-making at all levels		
41.	At the community level, in both urban and rural settings, participation in food production, process, wholesale, retail, trade, and community, and business associations can be affected by unequal power relations, gender roles and social norms, and discriminatory practices. Challenges may be more pronounced for indigenous and rural women, due to inadequate access to essential and social support services and the lack of opportunities to be represented in decision-making functions, as well as the persistence of historical and structural unequal power relations between women and men and traditional views about women's and men's gender roles in society.	
43.	Gender-based violence (GBV) and all forms of discrimination against women and girls represent serious barriers to women's leadership and full participation in public and community life.	<i>We have a strong preference to maintain reference to SGBV.</i>
44.	Governments should:	
44.	(ii) Promote the full, equal, effective inclusive and meaningful participation and engagement of all women and girls and their organizations in the process of policy design, implementation, oversight and programmatic decisions for food security, nutrition, agriculture and food systems , as applicable. A wide range of measures will be needed to effectively support women's leadership and girls' empowerment, such as training and capacity building including South-South and Triangular Cooperation.	Suggest rewording: A wide range of measures will be needed to effectively support women's leadership and women's and girls' empowerment, such as training and capacity building including South-South and Triangular Cooperation. OK with "agriculture and food systems", as suggested.
45.	(i) Strengthen the role of relevant women's and women's rights' organizations, and women's collective action in the context of food security and nutrition , recognizing the importance of self-association and the role of relevant civil society and social movements to promote gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment in decision-making at all levels of agriculture and food systems . Analyze constraints – prior to funding – faced by women in self-organizing (e.g. unequal domestic responsibilities, other context specific constraints arising from social norms and discrimination) and address them as applicable. Support may include direct funding for women's empowerment organizations, so they take leadership roles in decision-making process at local, national, regional and international levels, including women from Indigenous Peoples, and local communities' women, as appropriate.	
45.	(ii) Address all forms of discrimination, and particularly discriminatory gender norms, biases and attitudes, including among men leaders through awareness raising, training and introduction of gender policies and action plans. Set examples of women's leadership in all areas including in civil service, government, scientific research, technological development, academia, businesses and local communities, among other areas. Strongly encourage the participation and leadership of all women in all these processes.	<i>We insist for using the reference to "multiple and intersecting forms of discriminations" to fit to the ToR (+ agreed ad ref language at UNGA). This formula should be present once in this section at it is very relevant here: decision-making is mentionned in para 8 of the ToR about multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. At the same time, we suggest the following amendments to the text: " Strongly encourage the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of all women and their leadership in all these processes."</i>
PART 3.4 Women's economic and social empowerment in the context of sustainable food systems		

46.	<p>Access to secure and decent work in conditions of dignity and safety is vital to human welfare and well-being and is a key contributor to food security and nutrition. Women are more likely than men to be engaged in informal and insecure jobs, including in agriculture, with less access to social protection. They are often subject to a gender wage gap, earning less than men for equal work, or work of equal value, and are vulnerable to discrimination, exploitation, GBV and all forms of harassment in the workplace. This is due to multiple factors, including gender-based discrimination among employers, gender stereotypes, horizontal and vertical segregation of the labor market, unequal distribution of paid work and unpaid care work, lower levels of education, lack of knowledge of their rights as employees and lack of enforcement of these rights.</p>	<p><i>Small amendments to the text:</i></p> <p>They are often subject to a gender wage pay gap, earning less than men for equal work, or work of equal value, and are vulnerable to discrimination, exploitation, GBV and all forms of harassment in the workplace.</p>
49.	<p>Migrants, particularly women and girls, migrant workers, asylum seekers, refugees and displaced persons, and stateless persons are more vulnerable to severe labour exploitation and other forms of abuse. Migrant women and girls often experience situations of vulnerability due to gender-based discrimination, trafficking, and all forms of violence and discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.</p>	<p><i>Strong support for the amendment for including MIF</i></p>
50.	<p>Governments should:</p>	
53.	<p>Women are actively engaged across agriculture and food systems as producers and entrepreneurs. They contribute to agriculture and food systems as well as to food security and nutrition not only with their labour but also with their knowledge of agricultural practices and biodiversity, in particular by Indigenous Peoples. They play a central role in natural resource management and food production, processing, conservation, and marketing[17]. However, these roles are too often unpaid and unrecognized and are often not protected by labour laws because the majority of work in small-scale food production and processing where women tend to engage is undertaken in the informal economy. Women engaged in agriculture face constraints to full participation in value chains and food systems. [17] United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028. Global Action Plan. Rome. Action Plan Pillar 3 - FAO and IFAD, 2019.</p>	<p><i>We suggest few amendments but are flexible : "Women engaged in agriculture face constraints to full, equal and meaningful participation in value chains and food systems. "</i></p>
56.	<p>(i) Address negative social norms and gender stereotypes that condition women's involvement in agricultural investments, food systems and access to local, regional and global markets, to facilitate women's equal participation in and control over the various components of the value chains and agriculture and food systems as well as their control over the benefits from their engagement and to empower women to exercise this control.</p>	
56.	<p>(iv) Support analyses of food systems and value chains focusing on from production, processing packaging, storage, transportation, distribution processes and retail to end-user from a gender perspective. These analyses should take into account implications of all forms of discrimination, including multiple and intersecting ones.</p>	<p><i>We support the new amendments. We strongly support the reference to MIFD</i></p>
57.	<p>Lack of financial capital and financial inclusion are significant constraints to women's entrepreneurial activities and engagement all along the food system and value chains, from investment in land to agrifood businesses. Structural constraints to women's access to financial services such as credit and insurance are often based on restricted access to assets, including land and property, that could be used as collateral for loans; family indebtedness; limited knowledge and training of financial services; restricted availability of appropriate loan products for women-led micro, small, medium businesses and smallholders; lack of gender responsiveness and discrimination in statutory and customary laws; and negative social norms that prevent women from developing and growing their enterprises and productivity. At the same time, fair and equitable access to financial services is a prerequisite for overall societal economic security and prosperity.</p>	
58.	<p>(i) Address legal barriers, gender norms and gender biases for women's financial inclusion in agriculture and food systems. For example, improve women's access to credit and bank accounts, saving schemes, and agricultural insurance, including through specific financial programmes for women involved in all aspects of value chains individually or collectively, with more flexible collateral requirements, minimal documentary requirements, alternative data to assess credit worthiness, and customized disbursement schedules that fit women's crop and cash flow needs.</p>	<p><i>We support the amendments.</i></p>

58.	(iii) Foster and support innovation in financial products and services provision to diversify offerings available to women in agriculture and food systems . Support and raise awareness among financial product and service providers to allow and enhance financial inclusion, and encourage them to create financial products and services tailored to the needs of women, in particular rural micro-, small- and medium-scale producers and entrepreneurs.	
60.	Land serves as a foundation for food security, shelter, income and livelihoods. However, women, including young women, encounter persistent barriers to having their land, inheritance, ownership, use and property rights respected, even when laws and policies enshrine those rights. Many women are landless, and when women do have access, ownership/or control of agricultural land, their plots are usually smaller, and of poorer quality than men's, and often with less secure rights. The poorest people, including women and notably Indigenous Women, women in local communities, and women in contexts of conflict, protracted crises and shocks are affected by land misappropriation and often do not have the power or resources to fight these practices.	
61.	Climate change and extreme weather events, loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation and desertification have severe impacts on the productivity, value and availability of natural resources, which are disproportionately affecting women, in particular Indigenous and rural women, for example by increasing the time they need for fetching water, collecting fuelwood, food and medicinal plants and herbs.	
63.	Women's access to water is crucial for agriculture, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture production and for household and domestic purposes. Women's access to water is often unequal, in particular for Indigenous Women, women in local communities and women in situations of conflict, protracted crises and shocks. Women represent up to half of the labour force in aquaculture, largely in processing and trading, but typically receive lower labour returns and income than men.	<i>We support to re-insert the footnote referring to the UNGA resolution A/RES/64/292 which strengthens the para and which is in line with the EU promotion of a rights-based approach. This is all the more important as the UN Conference on water will have just taken place this year: intersectionality of the issue of water is an important topic for this conference and the CFS should show strong commitment.</i>
68.	Through their transformative potential, agroecological[19] and other innovative approaches[20], and all other sustainable innovations and technologies, can improve the sustainability and inclusiveness of agriculture and food systems provided that they encompass an holistic approach and emphasis on gender equality, embracing the three pillars of sustainable development (economic, social and environment) and contributing to the local production and availability of diverse, affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate food. [19] The 10 elements of Agroecology. Guiding the transition to sustainable food and agricultural systems - FAO, 2018. [20] Innovative approaches include among others, sustainable intensification, no-till farming, organic agriculture, and other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable agrifood systems, CL 170/4 Rev1, Para. 56.	<i>We agree to this paragraph.</i>
69.	Governments should:	
69.	(i) Implement and strengthen existing legislation or introduce new legislation ^[21] as appropriate to provide equal access to and control over ^[22] land, water, fisheries and forests, including through inheritance and divorce for all women and girls. At the same time, it is vital to recognize and address tensions and leverage complementarities between statutory and customary or religious laws in sensitive ways – for example by engaging local chiefs and religious leaders as allies. Work with customary and religious leaders to identify where customary and religious laws offer protection to women's access, ownership of property and resources and support these leaders in working to achieve that these provisions are respected and enforced. [21] UN Women and OHCHR, Realizing Women's Rights to Land and Other Productive Resources (Second edition, 2020). [22] CEDAW General Recommendation No. 34 on the rights of rural women, para 64.	<i>We would like to suggest the elimination of word religious as it is not clear what religious laws are.</i> "Work with customary and religious leaders to identify where customary and religious laws offer protection to women's access, ownership of property and resources and support these leaders in working to achieve that these provisions are respected and enforced."
69.	(iii) Support tenure rights of all women and girls in accordance with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS-VGGT) and CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI)].	<i>We agree to this paragraph.</i>
69.	(v) Respect land tenure systems of Indigenous Peoples, in particular Indigenous women and local communities' women, consistent with the existing obligations and commitments under national and international frameworks and promote their greater control and decision-making powers and obtaining of free, prior and informed consent, as applicable, critical for their food security, livelihoods and culture.	

70.	(iii) Encourage equal investments in agricultural development that integrate and respond to the priorities, capabilities and constraints of women. Promote agroecological and other innovative approaches , knowledge and technologies for women across the agrifood systems and its value chains in particular micro-, small- and medium-scale food producers and entrepreneurs that respond to their needs.	<i>We agree to this para.</i>
PART 3.6 Access to education, capacity building, training, knowledge and information services		
71.	Education of all people, particularly of all women and girls , is a strategic and critical development priority for food security and nutrition. Women with more years of schooling tend to be more informed about nutrition and adopt healthier dietary practices for themselves and their families. Literacy and school attendance correlate with greater understanding of nutrition, breastfeeding, better farming practices and improved production methods, including increased likelihood of developing and using seeds and crops appropriate for their particular ecological environment and cultural context. Education, including civic education, also increases women's and girls' ability to access information and knowledge, enhancing their capacity to participate in the formal labour market and in decision-making, and to be informed about their rights. Inclusive quality education is essential for women's and girls' empowerment for achieving gender equality and for reducing women's poverty, and thus for improving their food security.	<i>We support this para. Only a small adjustment of the language: "Inclusive quality education is essential for women's and girls' empowerment and for achieving gender equality and for reducing women's poverty, and thus for improving their food security."</i>
72.	Girls' education is associated with future economic and social prospects and lower early and adolescent pregnancies and fertility rates, as well as with improved food security and nutrition. Yet, persistent inequality in education and high drop-out rates for girls continue to affect the lives of millions of women and girls worldwide. Obstacles to girls' education include gender- discriminatory stereotypes and social norms, child, early and forced marriage and pregnancy, GBV , discriminatory laws and policies, poverty, living in rural areas, conflicts, protracted crises and shocks, lack of gender-responsive school facilities such as a lack of safe bathrooms and menstrual hygiene management for girls, particularly for Indigenous women and women in local communities. Shocks and crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic have negative impacts on girls' education.	<i>We would prefer the reference, in this paragraph, to SGBV, as obstacles to access to education include sexual violence and sexual harassment as referred to in CSW65 2021. At the same time, we have few adjustments to the text as follows: "Obstacles to girls' education include gender- discriminatory stereotypes and social norms, child, early and forced marriage and pregnancy, GBV, discriminatory laws and policies, poverty, living in rural areas, conflicts, protracted crises and shocks, lack of gender-responsive school facilities such as a lack of safe bathrooms and menstrual hygiene management for girls, particularly for Indigenous women girls, girls with disabilities and girls women in local communities."</i>
77.	(ii) Promote systemic changes in the design and delivery of EAS ensuring they are gender- responsive, with a transformative approach. For example, EAS policies and programmes should include concrete gender equality objectives and gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation frameworks informed by women producers and gender-responsive budget. When applicable, encourage investments in digital agricultural extension services and the infrastructure to support this, including gender-equal internet access. Women producers' traditional knowledge, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities' knowledge, as well as the farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchange, should be recognized, encouraged and respected as part of these processes. Service providers should promote the use of the participatory, reflective and experiential methodologies and design, deliver gender- responsive services and technologies that address discriminatory or negative social norms, take into account women's time, mobility and educational constraints and respond to women's specific needs and priorities.	
78.	ICTs and digital technologies and solutions can often benefit women and girls in many ways. They can gain access to technical and vocational education and training, knowledge and capacity building opportunities, credit and new economic and employment opportunities, information on health care, nutrition and agriculture, including for instance pricing of products as well as early warning messages related to weather conditions through online information resources and networking opportunities. ICTs and targeted digital content as well as digital literacy and digital market access can help women entrepreneurs in rural and remote communities as well as in urban centers to achieve access to new markets and consumers. ICTs can also facilitate cash transfers and mediate secure transactions, including the receipt of remittances and purchase of inputs. However, the knowledge gained through use of ICTs cannot replace EAS.	

79.	Access to ICTs varies significantly across regions and between women and girls, and men and boys. Women and girls located in rural or remote areas in particular face significant barriers in access and use of digital technologies, due to unaffordability, low digital literacy, social norms, lack of electricity and connectivity. The gender gap in access to ICTs - and structural factors that cause it - need to be urgently addressed if the benefits of ICTs to GEWGE are to be realized. It is vital to ensure that new technologies do not result in gender-based discrimination, worsen existing inequality or increase GBV.	<i>We could accept the current text. However, we suggest small adjustments to streamline the text:</i> "It is vital to ensure that new technologies do not result in gender-based discrimination and gender-based violence and worsen existing inequality or increase GBV. "
80.	(iv) Design agri-tech and other digital platforms for women entrepreneurs and tools with gender equal participation in its co-designing to address and recognize all women's and girls' needs, preferences, opportunities and constraints. Foster innovation and encourage investments and funding for this.	<i>We could accept the current text. However, we suggest small adjustments:</i> "(iv) Design agri-tech and other digital platforms for women entrepreneurs and tools with gender equal participation in its co-designing to address and recognize all women's and girls' needs, preferences, opportunities and constraints. Foster innovation and encourage investments and funding for this."
PART 3.7 Social protection and food and nutrition assistance		
82.	Social protection policies and programmes that address discriminatory or negative social norms, gender stereotypes and unequal power relations between woman and men, can address risks and all forms of discrimination faced by women and girl over their life course –including multiple and intersecting ones- and support them with measures to prevent poverty, overcome social exclusion and manage risks in relation to different types of shocks and constraints. They include cash or food transfers in times of crisis, public distribution systems, school meals, child and family support payments, maternity protection and paid parental leave, employment injury benefits, sickness and health protection, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences. Social protection instruments can also include pensions, agriculture and unemployment insurance, and labour market and livelihood enhancement interventions.	<i>We accept the proposed formulation for the 'controversial issues'. However, the paragraph places emphasis on crisis response and food provision when these are not the core of social protection systems. We could propose to modify as follows:</i> "Social protection policies and programmes that address discriminatory or negative social norms, gender stereotypes and unequal power relations between woman and men, can address risks and all forms of discrimination faced by women and girl over their life course –including multiple and intersecting ones- and support them with measures to prevent poverty, overcome social exclusion and manage risks in relation to different types of shocks and constraints. Social protection instruments include pensions, unemployment and agriculture insurance, labour market and livelihood enhancement interventions, child and family support payments, maternity protection and paid parental leave, employment injury benefits, sickness and health protection, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences. They can also include cash or food transfers in times of crisis, public distribution systems and school meals." <i>We also suggest to consider placing the reference to ICPD in a footnote.</i>
PART 3.8 Recognition, reduction and redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work		
94.	(iv) Promote nutrition education programmes that recognize that unpaid care and domestic work should be shared more equitably between women, men, girls and boys, and that men must play a role in ensuring adequate nutrition for their families, while also addressing the historical and structural inequality in power relations between women and men and gender stereotypes that may affect men's willingness to take on these shared roles.	
PART 3.9	Elimination of all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, in the context of food security and nutrition.	<i>We would prefer to include here the reference to SGBV. At the same time, we propose the following adjustment:</i> "Elimination of all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, both online and offline , in the context of food security and nutrition."
95.	Every human being should be able to live a life free from all forms of violence. GBV, which includes physical, sexual, psychological, economic abuse and harmful practices[26], persists in every country, is an extreme manifestation of gender inequality and can violate or abuse fundamental human rights and reinforces the vicious cycle of poverty and food insecurity. [26] GBV is defined in CEDAW, General Recommendation No35.	<i>We prefer the reference, in this para. to SGBV, also for consistency as it says it includes sexual abuse and harmful practices. We strongly support the reference to the violation of human rights and we welcome that that this text takes a human-rights based approach. However, we would like to understand why the expression "fundamental human rights" is used and if it is agreed language. In our view, as human rights shouldn't be prioritized. At the same time, we propose the following adjustments to the text:</i> "GBV, which includes physical, sexual, psychological, economic abuse and harmful practices[26], persists in every country, is an extreme manifestation of gender inequality and can violate or abuse fundamental human rights and reinforces the vicious cycle of poverty and food insecurity."

96	<p>Poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition and GBV^[27] are linked in multiple ways that will vary depending on context. GBV, or fear of it, reduce people's capacity to work, their productivity and livelihood assets, increases household expenditures (e.g. medical treatments) and also restricts access to community support and service delivery of all kinds. Deterioration in food security status can contribute to the increase in GBV at individual, household, community and societal level. Multiple factors such as discrimination based on ethnicity or disability can intensify the risk of GBV. There is extensive evidence documenting sexual violence and GBV in the agriculture and food sectors^{[3]28}, for example when women and girls collect water, food and fuelwood. Food insecurity itself can exacerbate tensions within the household leading to domestic violence. At the same time, women and girls living in urban areas can also face high risk of GBV. This may result from factors that include greater social fragmentation, extreme poverty, poor quality and congested living conditions [27] How can we protect men, women, and children from gender-based violence? Addressing GBV in the food security and agriculture sector. FAO, 2018. [28] FAO, ibid.</p>	<p><i>Strong preference to include reference to SGBV.</i></p>
97	<p>All forms of violence, including GBV, severely undermine women's and girls' physical, psychological, emotional and mental health, dignity and well-being, compromising their capacity to take advantage of opportunities to further contribute to food security and nutrition and undermining their livelihoods and right to an adequate standard of living. Yet it often remains shrouded in a culture of shame and silence.</p>	<p><i>Strong preference to include reference to SGBV.</i></p>
98	<p>Governments should support the elimination of all forms of GBV, including harmful practices 29, in the context of food security and nutrition by:</p>	<p><i>We should not to reopen the already agreed para.</i></p>
98	<p>(i) Implementing existing international legal obligations, commitments and guidelines, including those related to CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action, which call for the provision of legal frameworks to address and criminalize GBV and to protect survivors, as well as ILO Conventions, relevant in agriculture and food systems and rural areas, as applicable.</p>	
98	<p>(ii) Implementing and strengthening existing national legislation and introducing new legislation and regulations as applicable to prevent, respond and eliminate all forms of violence, including GBV offline and online, taking into consideration its specificities within agriculture and food systems and in rural areas. Many countries now have laws preventing violence in the workplace and domestic violence laws in place, but some have deficiencies such as exemptions (e.g. marital rape), or too often these are not mobilized when they are most needed. It is therefore vital that States enforce the law in relation to all manifestation of GBV. They should also raise the awareness of police, judiciary, healthcare and education professionals and social care workers and the public, with cultural relevance, in order to improve safeguarding and reporting mechanisms.</p>	<p><i>Preference to include reference to SGBV, particularly in the second occurrence</i></p>
98	<p>(iii) Ensuring measures and services are in place for supporting and protecting survivors of sexual violence and GBV, specifically across agriculture and food systems and rural areas, as well as for supporting their needs within the context of legal proceedings, including criminal proceedings against perpetrators and investing in preventive measures. This requires providing effective survivor-centered reporting mechanisms such as emergency helplines, in Indigenous languages, when applicable, shelters for survivors and their children and ensuring there are 'one-stop-centres' where they can receive the support they need in an integrated way, with cultural relevance. It means not only punishing perpetrators but engaging them in processes to change harmful behaviours and attitudes.</p>	<p><i>Strong preference to include reference to SGBV, since this is already agreed language.</i></p>
98	<p>(iv) Protect and advance all women and girls' food security and nutrition by ensuring the security and safety of all women and girls from the onset of crises, with targeted approaches for survivors of violence and to the most disadvantaged, promoting their protection, dignity and integrity. Special attention should be given to those who are at risk to suffer from all forms of violence and discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, particularly women in local communities, young and older women, women with disabilities, Indigenous women and other vulnerable groups.</p>	<p><i>Support for the text. Small adjustments to the text as follows:</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>"Special attention should be given to those who are at risk to suffer from all any forms of violence and discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, particularly women in local communities, young and older women, women with disabilities, Indigenous women and other vulnerable groups."</i></p>
99	<p>Governments, with the support of all relevant stakeholders including civil society, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, private sector and development partners, should take all appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls, including GBV, and harmful practices by:</p>	<p><i>Strong preference to include reference to SGBV, since this is already agreed language.</i></p>

99	<p>(i) Promoting changes in social norms and stereotypes that generate and perpetuate GBV taking into consideration the specificities of agriculture and food systems, local communities and rural areas. Investing in preventive measures should include addressing its root causes, including gender discriminatory norms and gender stereotypes. Initiatives could include campaigns and training programmes raising public awareness of GBV, including on sexual harassment and online bullying, and taking a zero-tolerance attitude to all forms of violence. They should address structural inequality in power relations between women and men— for example challenging the normalization of violence as a manifestation of male behaviour - and elimination of harmful practices. Men and boys should be actively engaged in these processes.</p>	<p>We agree with the reference to GBV. However, the reference to rural areas seems to imply that urban food security and nutrition outcomes are less impacted by GBV which is not the case. To avoid this, we propose the following changes: "Promoting changes in Addressing social norms and stereotypes in the context of food security and nutrition that generate and perpetuate GBV taking into consideration the specificities of agriculture and food systems, local communities and rural areas. Investing in preventive measures should include addressing its root causes, including gender discriminatory norms and gender stereotypes. Initiatives could include campaigns and training programmes raising public awareness of GBV, including on sexual harassment and online online and offline bullying, online and offline, and taking a zero-tolerance attitude to all forms of violence. They should address structural inequality in power relations between women and men— for example challenging the normalization of violence as a manifestation of male behaviour - and elimination of harmful practices. Men and boys should be actively engaged in these processes."</p>
99	<p>(ii) Strengthening relevant women's rights and feminist organizations, social movements and civil society and Indigenous Peoples', and local communities' organizations working to prevent, mitigate, respond to and eliminate all forms of violence including GBV in the context of food security and nutrition.</p>	<p>We would prefer the reference, in this para. to SGBV. At the same time, we suggest the following small adjustments: "(ii) Strengthening relevant women's rights and feminist organizations, social movements and civil society and Indigenous Peoples', and local communities' organizations working to prevent, mitigate, respond to and eliminate all forms of violence including GBV in the context of food security and nutrition."</p>
100	<p>Climate change and natural disaster impacts for women and girls Weather-related events linked to climate change are increasingly among the drivers of global hunger and food insecurity, which have been rising recently. Women and girls are distinctly and disproportionately affected by climate change, earthquakes, climate-related shocks, like droughts and floods, sea level rise, loss of biodiversity, land degradation, desertification, and production damage and loss. Climate change and extreme weather events further exacerbate existing gender inequalities. Women and girls, particularly Indigenous women, have less ownership and control over assets, lower access to EAS and weather information. Gender roles often leave them with more unpaid care work while simultaneously threatening their participation in sustainable development and reducing their own adaptive capacity. Women producers are often least able to withstand these impacts due to lack of access to technology and financial and other resources, including limited ability to access financing for climate-related disaster risk management and recovery, including agricultural insurance. Furthermore, this results in increasing levels of chronic hunger and poor dietary diversity.</p>	
101	<p>Climate change and extreme weather events are magnifying and exacerbating fault-lines of gender inequality which hamper development[30] on a global scale, while at the same time gender inequality is deepening the impacts of climate change, particularly for Indigenous Peoples, local communities and the most disadvantaged, with serious implications for food security and nutrition often resulting in the increase of the triple burden of malnutrition. [30] See for example UNGA Resolution 76/163 on "The Right to development" adopted by the General Assembly on 16 December 2021</p>	<p>We could accept the proposals.</p>
103	<p>Impacts of zoonotic diseases on women and girls The COVID-19 pandemic and other zoonotic diseases have shone a spotlight on the full extent of gender inequality and women's and girls' exposure to sexual violence and GBV. The pandemic and related containment measures have exacerbated pre-existing drivers of fragility, widened inequality and exposed structural vulnerabilities of local and global food systems, hitting the most economically vulnerable households particularly hard, with women and girls often the most affected.</p>	<p>We could accept the amendments but with strong preference to include SGBV in this para.</p>
105	<p>Conflict impacts for women and girls in the context of food security and nutrition Conflicts, protracted crises and shocks cause hunger and food insecurity globally, disrupting supplies of nutritious and healthy food, economic activity, and food production leading to rising food prices and creating additional challenges for women to feed their families. At the same time, there is a circular relationship between conflicts, food crises and food insecurity that can drive conflicts, protracted crises and shocks. Children born in fragile or conflict-affected states are twice as likely to be malnourished. Conflicts are also a major contributor to displacement which negatively impacts access to nutritious and healthy food and livelihoods and can lead to long-term food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly for women and girls, including Indigenous women, and local communities' women. Conflicts also leave women and girls at a heightened risk of sexual violence and GBV.</p>	<p>We could accept the amendments but with strong preference to include SGBV in this para.</p>
107	<p>(viii) Provide safe spaces for all women and girls and in every humanitarian response. Promote measures that prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the needs assessments, targeting or delivery of assistance. This means GBV risk mitigation and response and reducing other security risks related to food logistic and distribution and including all women and girls in the process of selecting the location of the distribution points.</p>	<p>As compromise, we could accept the text.</p>

PART 4	PROMOTION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE GUIDELINES	
PART 4.3	Monitoring the use and application of the guidelines	
113	Governments, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to define national policy priorities and related indicators, mobilize regional and local structures to report on these indicators, and establish or strengthen, where appropriate, existing national monitoring and reporting systems in order to assess the efficacy and effectiveness of policies and regulations, and implement appropriate actions in case of negative impacts or gaps. Governments are encouraged to use science and evidence-based monitoring and evaluation approaches focused on learning what works and adaptation to maximize results.	
Legend:		
Yellow	Pending agreement with proposed changes in red in accordance with the table with proposed solutions to contentious issues	
Green	Agreed Ad Ref. at the end of the third round of negotiations in July 2022 - but with proposed changes in red	
White	Pending agreement, text not expected to include contentious issues	