



TRANSCRIPTION

ITEM IV. STRATEGIC DIRECTION TOWARD 2030

A) CRITICAL, EMERGING AND ENDURING ISSUES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2022

CFS Chairperson

I invite you to consider Item IV which includes three sub-items.

In this session, we will be setting the stage for the preparation of our future multi-year programme of work two until 2027, which will be discussed, developed, and agreed at our plenary session next year in October.

So this will begin with a short introduction by Miss Jennifer Clapp, HLPE-FSN Vice Chairperson.

Jennifer will be introducing the note on critical, emerging and enduring issues prepared by the High Level Panel of Experts, and that you have as information document Number 16, and we will follow with an open discussion.

Jennifer Clapp – Vice Chairperson HLPE-FSN

I am happy to present the HLPE-FSN's Third Note on Critical and Emerging and Enduring Issues for Food Security and Nutrition. The leader of the oversight group for this note, Dr. Hilal Elver is here remotely to help answer questions.

The note was officially launched just a few weeks ago in a longer presentation. Today we are only going to present very brief highlights of the note.

The note outlines seven critical emerging and enduring issues that overlap and intersect with one another in important ways, and the seven themes are lenses through which to view the myriad challenges facing food systems.

The first issue identified is the need to build resilient and equitable supply chains for food security and nutrition. This is important because food supply chains are vulnerable to various disruptions and risks, and they embed deep inequalities and unsustainable practices, so more inclusive and equitable supply chains are urgently needed for food system resilience.

Among the key areas of inquiry for this particular theme are the need to identify the main vulnerabilities facing supply chains today. We need to look at the implications of the inequities and power imbalances in supply chains, especially as they impact marginalized groups and to evaluate different models of how to improve food supply, chain resilience, and how to bring those models forward in policy as well as the role of different actors within those models.

The second theme, identified in the note is the need to strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems in the context of urbanization and rural transformation. This theme is important because almost 60% of the global population currently lives in urban centers, and these areas have high rates of extreme weather events, poverty, inequality, and food insecurity. Thus, it is vital to understand the unique challenges of providing food security in these contexts. The key themes for research in this issue area are: the need to ensure equitable, accessible and participatory food systems for all; how to make urban and peri-urban urban food systems more resilient in the face of growing challenges, such as climate change, pandemics and inequality; and the benefits and challenges of territorial markets and local markets for connecting rural, urban and peri urban areas.

The third theme is conflicts and the fragility of food systems.

In 2021, nearly 80% of people experiencing acute hunger lived in countries affected by conflict, and over 49 million people in three dozen countries are just one step away from the declaration of famine. The key areas that we have identified that need further inquiry are: how to protect the right to food in conflict situations, including empowering local people to engage in food systems transformations; how to ensure access to humanitarian assistance for those most affected by conflict; and also how to address the root causes of gender-based violence and inequities that are common in conflict situations.

The fourth issue we identified is the need to revitalize climate policies for food security and nutrition. Climate change remains a critical and enduring threat to food security and nutrition. Food systems are deeply impacted by climate change and continue to be a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. It is essential to evaluate and coordinate food policies with climate policies. The key themes identified in this issue for further research are to evaluate climate change, mitigation and adaptation policies to address food security and nutrition at all stages of food supply chains to prioritize the most affected regions and populations against the impacts of climate change and to evaluate new technologies and ideas inclusive of women and youth to foster ecosystem protection and climate resilience.

The fifth issue identified in the note is the need to recognize the role and rights of food system workers. Despite their contribution to food systems, workers have long been underpaid and undervalued, facing occupational hazards, poverty and food insecurity. Women, children and undocumented workers often face the harshest conditions within their food system employment and they must be protected.

The key themes identified under this issue area are: what is to just determine what are the best policies to improve living and working conditions for all food system workers; the role of unions, and how to extend social protection to workers, including those employed in the informal sector; as well as how to eliminate the root causes of child labor.

The sixth issue identified in the report is the need to build a meaningful interface for diverse knowledge systems, technologies and practices for food security and nutrition. Food systems are diverse, embracing a range of knowledge, systems and technologies from modern approaches to traditional and indigenous practices. But there are uneven power dynamics in food policies around different kinds of knowledge. Thus, it is important to bridge the gap between multiple forms of knowledge in equitable and integrated ways that respect local understanding, in order to improve the resilience of food systems. Key areas that the HLPE FSN identified for further inquiry include: how to establish engagement between indigenous and mainstream scientific knowledge systems to ensure both are equally authoritative in food policies, strategies, to ensure equitable access to knowledge

and technologies, including agroecology, digital and other technologies, especially for smallholders, women indigenous peoples and local communities, and finally ways to bring this integration of different knowledge into research, education, extension systems that is necessary for the transformation of food systems.

The seventh and final theme identified is emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases and other biological hazard events that challenge food security and nutrition. The unprecedented rate of infectious disease emergence, and the need to sustainably feed a global population represent two of the most formidable ecological and public health challenges of the twenty first century. The key themes identified in the note for further inquiry on this topic include the need to examine how infectious diseases interface with food systems, including how practices can spread diseases, and how to ensure food systems, stability, resilience, and sustainability in the face of health crises, the contribution of various levels of social inequalities for emerging infectious diseases, and also how food practices and food systems can help respond to infectious diseases and other biological hazard events.

CFS Chairperson:

I now encourage all members and stakeholders to share your reflection on the ways in which in the next four years we can fulfil better the roles assigned to the Committee: first coordination at the global level; second policy convergence, third support and advice to countries and regions. Fourth coordination of national regional levels. Fifth, promoting accountability and share best practices, and six develop a global strategic framework. These are the roles assigned to the Committee as part of the reform in 2009.

Australia

Notes the development and publication of the HLPE-FSN CEEI Note and its identification of seven key issues for consideration by CFS in the context of elaborating the 2024-2027 MYPoW.

As highlighted in our intervention under agenda Item II item, published on the CFS50 website, Australia is deeply concerned at the rising levels of global hunger, including in our own region, we recognize that the path ahead is challenging, and that all countries are currently facing a suite of unprecedented challenges, stemming from among other things, the COVID 19 pandemic, climate change, rising cost of living and conflicts, and in particular, the global food security and nutrition ramifications arising from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Now more than ever countries need equitable, sustainable, and resilient agri-food systems that can withstand and recover from external shocks in a socially inclusive and gender responsive manner or risks of destabilization and conflict will increase, and the attainment of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals will slip from our collective reach.

In considering the future work plan and focus of this Committee, we offer the following comments:

Firstly, we highlight that international trade and specialized global supply chains are a fundamentally important element of global food security alongside and in tandem, with local or national supply chains and markets. In this regard, attention should also be given to the importance of strengthening the multilateral rules-based trading system, including international standard setting bodies.

Secondly, we note that supporting sustainable agricultural productivity growth will be critical to ensure long term global food security and to provide decent livelihood options, particularly in light of the ongoing impacts of climate change.

And thirdly, a strong commitment to the one health approach is needed to optimize the health and well-being of people, animals, and ecosystems to prevent future genetic disease, outbreaks and animal and plant pest and disease incursions, and should be strongly reflected within the future work Plan of the HLPE.

Finally, Australia highlights the need for continued efforts to collate research that is balanced, scientifically based, and that objectively informs the future findings and conclusions of CFS Products.

Czech Republic

The Czech Republic delivers this statement on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States. Albania, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, and North Macedonia Republic of Moldova, San Marino Turkey, and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.

We thank the High Level Panel of Experts, its Chair Bernard Lehmann and the entire research team for their last report entitled “Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues for Food Security and Nutrition. A note by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security”.

Their analysis suggests seven research axes for discussion with CFS members and stakeholders in order to advance on current global food security and nutrition issues and generate productive dialogues for the coming years. Their problem-focused and sourced synthesis, relevant proposals and open questions are very valuable resources for the CFS, which give us greater insight into current issues as part of a comprehensive and global approach to food security and nutrition.

Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have exacerbated global food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition. Today it is more relevant than ever to pursue exchanges on the implementation of ambitious and proactive agricultural and food policies. Furthermore, we stress the urgency of accelerating the transformation towards sustainable and resilient food systems. The insight provided by the HLPE scientific community is crucial to improving a common understanding of these issues and facilitating the CFS negotiations.

Interactions and cross-disciplinarily methods provide a real benefit and need to be encouraged and applied. Cross-cutting issues such as the climate crisis, environmental degradation, natural disasters, pandemics, the impact of crises and conflicts, migration, youth and gender inequality and emerging technologies have direct consequences on food security and nutrition. These topics should be systematically addressed, as far as possible, in every HLPE research theme chosen.

This is why the European Union and its 27 Member States support the HLPE’s involvement in these issues related to structural vulnerabilities in food systems. We recognize the relevance of all key questions identified by the HLPE report and look forward to preparing the CFS MYPoW 2024-2027 using this scientific evidence-based content. In this context, we welcome the establishment of an OEWG for preparing the next MYPoW and would value an opportunity for all CFS members and

stakeholders to be able to submit their own proposals in addition to the HLPE's valuable seven topics. We would welcome an in-depth internal discussion on enhancing efforts to increase global awareness and use of all CFS policy products.

United States of America

Thanks to the HLPE for developing this note on critical, enduring, and emerging issues for food security and nutrition.

The United States sees importance in each of the issues identified by the HLPE. Three are particularly timely and relevant to CFS's work and mandate: one, "Building resilient and equitable supply chains for food security and nutrition;" two, "Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems in the context of urbanization and rural transformation," and three, "Conflicts and the fragility of food systems."

Two key factors driving the ongoing food crisis underline the need to tackle these subjects. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown both the fragility and strength of supply chains worldwide, and it is crucial that we are able to learn from these past two and a half years to build more equitable and resilient food systems that contribute to improved food security and nutrition. This must be underpinned by strengthening a rules-based, open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, and predictable multilateral trading system.

Secondly, more than 60 percent of the world's undernourished people live in areas affected by conflict. As Secretary-General Guterres noted in May, "When war is waged, people go hungry." Since Russia launched in February a further unprovoked and illegal war against Ukraine, the world has seen food prices soar as crops are stolen, lost or destroyed; grain exports are blocked; and inputs like fertilizer are in short supply. Assessing the impacts that conflicts like the war in Ukraine have on our food systems and nutritional status of mothers and children is critical to improving the global policy response.

We will save our comments on strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems for later in the agenda.

Turning to the road ahead, CFS 51 represents a tremendous opportunity for the CFS to endorse a multi-year programme of work that focuses global attention on policy responses to several of these key issues, as we work to achieve the 2030 agenda.

The United States supports an open, transparent, and inclusive intersessional period for gathering stakeholder input and supporting the work of the CFS Bureau as they draft the 2024-2027 MYPoW, in collaboration with the Advisory Group.

For any of the emerging issues ultimately included in the MYPoW 2024- 2027, it is critical that the HLPE consider and respect the work and mandate of other international bodies, and that it draws from a diverse and strong evidence-base. The added value of the CFS's Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) is in its ability to fill gaps in existing guidance and complement the work of other bodies, while ensuring its policy products are applicable to stakeholders from varying contexts.

Therefore, ensuring that the elaboration of any of the emerging issues are closely linked to food security is important for maintaining an appropriate scope that stays within the expertise of the HLPE and CFS.

The United States eagerly awaits the opportunity to work with all CFS stakeholders during the intersessional period to discuss the emerging issues as we work toward developing our 2024-2027 MYPoW.

Spain

Spain supports the statement made by the Czech Republic on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States. We would like to highlight the work conducted by the CFS and its Chair in order to face the current food crisis. CFS is the key intergovernmental international platform, including a broad range of stakeholders committed to working together in a coordinated fashion with the aim for combating food insecurity and guaranteeing nutrition for all human beings. In this respect, CFS has endeavored to ensure that countries apply the voluntary guidelines, like the two presented at this plenary, supporting the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. We welcome the important work that CFS has conducted to achieve better coordination of all activities related to food security, in total synergy with the work of the Hub itself. We fully support the requests of the Chair and the Secretariat, in line with the resource mobilization strategy, for CFS to continue with efforts to broaden and diversify its funding through support from member states, private foundations or private sector and financial institutions.

We also express our deep concern at the current food situation worldwide. And we must act together. This crisis has shown us, along with COVID-19, that it is not sufficient to conduct individual initiatives, we must seek a common framework for action, where we can coordinate to align our actions and work hand in hand. In this respect, the CFS has a broad experience and a huge capacity as an intergovernmental liaison platform to exchange best practices and assess and measure the impact on development. We would like the CFS to continue to be the multilateral forum per excellence in terms of food security, to develop its coordinating mandate. Therefore, we take advantage of the convening of the CFS as the key inclusive and intergovernmental platform to review the current global food security situation in order to harmonize collective action at all levels. Spain would like to recall that Agenda 2030 specifically acknowledges the important inclusive role of CFS and particularly its role to promote food security nutrition. CFS also decided to make the 2030 agenda the focus of its work and therefore it will support this important work stream and all its goals and the interconnections between them.

We have heard loud and clear in recent months and particularly here in Rome, that we are facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. We are facing a critical juncture now and it's time to act urgently in a coordinated manner. Multilateralism is more important than ever. Business as usual is no longer an option. This Committee must therefore must be at the focus of action to combat this crisis and Spain fully supports it.

Switzerland

We thank the HLPE for the preparation of the note on Critical, Enduring and Emerging Issues identifying key issues affecting food security and nutrition. We especially welcome the heading that recognizes that some of the key issues continue to exist and are therefore enduring. We welcome the fact that the HLPE does not limit itself to name emerging issues.

We consider three of the identified key issues to be particularly relevant for the work of this committee for its new MYPoW 2024-2027:

Firstly, urban and peri-urban food systems: At a time of rapid urbanization, cities are becoming increasingly important agents of change including on policies and action aimed at providing access to healthy diets for all. Getting food systems right at the peri-urban and urban level will be an important way for countries to turn global commitments into local realities. This theme also ties in with the results of last year's UNFSS21 where cities were identified as important drivers for sustainable food systems. We suggest this topic of urban and peri-urban food systems to be selected for the 2024 HLPE report.

Secondly, Revitalizing climate policies for Food Security and Nutrition: Climate change remains a critical and enduring global threat to food security and nutrition. It is vital to evaluate and revise existing policies, and to find forward-looking policy instruments. Adaptation and mitigation policies should be looked at from the perspective of food security and nutrition and they should integrate a human-right based approach, as well as sustainability to build resilient production systems, such as agroecological ones.

Thirdly, Building resilient and equitable supply chains for food security and nutrition: Food supply chains have become increasingly complex in recent decades and risk disruption from many different types of shocks, including conflict, climate variability, financial shocks and pandemic,. Given the growing frequency of shocks and the potential for additional crises from a range of sources, it is imperative to take a deeper look at the types of vulnerabilities and inequities within food supply chains, and to suggest ways to make them more equitable and resilient so that they are able to function to support all six dimensions of food security.

As the HLPE Steering Committee outlines in the introduction of its note, the critical, emerging and enduring issues overlap, intersect and are cross-cutting. These aspects should also be taken into account in the selection of topics for the MYPoW. Without losing focus, the topics should be defined broadly enough to cover all relevant aspects in order to address the complex issues. Switzerland considers a human rights based approach and addressing all six dimensions of food security, including agency and sustainability as crucial for CFS's strategic direction towards 2030.

Venezuela

We welcome the Note prepared by the HLPE-FSN and recognize that this initiative is helpful for the Committee's upcoming work. We reinforce the conclusion that a conceptual approach is essential in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition.

We would like to draw attention to the seven key themes identified by the HLPE and particularly three among them - climate change, natural disasters and conflicts - are enduring issues. In the HLPE Note,

these issues are presented as a threat to building resilient and equitable supply chains and bringing us further away from the achievement of SDG2 and the 2030 Agenda.

To conclude, we wish to highlight that the strategic direction of CFS will not be effective unless we hold in depth discussions on the root causes of hunger in the world. To this end, we call on the CFS Bureau, with the support of the Advisory Group and participation of all relevant stakeholders, to include these considerations in the preparation of the next MYPoW which will be submitted for consideration and endorsement next year.

Thailand

Thailand appreciates the 'Third Note on Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues for Food Security and Nutrition' issued by the High Level Panel of Experts and concurs on the findings and advice presented in the Note.

In Thailand, food security and nutrition have always been - and continue to be – a top national priority and we are determined to reduce the cost of healthy and nutritious food and to increase availability, affordability and access to healthy and nutritious diets, both at domestic and international level.

In the interest of time, let me briefly conclude by stating that: We endorse the update of the rolling section of the MYPoW.

We encourage the expansion and diversification of CFS financing base in order to allow for full implementation of the updated workplan.

We approve the proposed Theme for the HLPE Report 2024 on 'Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems to achieve food security and nutrition in the context of urbanization and rural transformation'.

Argentina

I would like to begin by thanking the HLPE FSN team for developing this document, which sets out possible work for the future of the CFS. Firstly, we would like to indicate that the individual topics are important. They do not necessarily fall under the mandate of the CFS, and it might overlap with other FAO technical committees or rather with the work of other specialized agencies in the UN even. We think that we need to be prudent and careful in the identification of certain work lines. They need to fall under the competency of the CFS. Also, when it comes to technical content of the documents, we must emphasize the importance of using agreed language, which has been agreed on a multilateral level for developing this kind of reports on the other hand, we also did insist on the need to go beyond proposing solutions based on single visions, they must not forget about the situation of developing countries, for example. We think that it is important to address urban and peri-urban agricultural systems through policies which facilitate the promotion of food and nutrition security.

The linking of these structures with technology, taking into account specificities and situations, could also be interesting in the future.

At the same time, one element which is not in the report, which we believe could be important is the relation between disability and food security. We understand that this area deserves attention as it is often made invisible.

The issue of how to reduce or overcome food loss and waste should also form part of the strategic guidance for the committee. FAO currently has a solid code on this issue. And this is how we could frame future debates. In parallel the issue of how international trade supports accessible and nutritious food worldwide could also link back to the MYPoW. With regard to the rest of the topics proposed in the document, we would like to reiterate the idea that we need to avoid addressing issues which fall outside the mandate of the CFS, but also fall on the mandate of other bodies. We also invite them to approach carefully the structure and content of the MYPoW so that it gives a realistic timeframe which takes into account the capacity of delegations.

We look forward to the next report of the HLPE-FSN and we will be ready to participate in the development of the next programme of work.

Dominican Republic

We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the HLPE FSN. The seven fundamental issues which are covered in this note are crucial and they have an impact on the current food security and nutrition situation. They address issues such as climate change conflict, infectious diseases and others in this regard, working towards the SDGs. The elements which are indicated in the document will be relevant for the next debates in the open ended working group on the preparation of the 2024-2027 MYPoW. It will be an important milestone when it comes to achieving the SDGs.

As you will recall, my delegation has played an active role to play in developing the current MYPoW. The CFS is an inclusive multi-stakeholder platform for global food security and nutrition. We have an important tool. We trust that we will be able to have solid human and financial resources to comply with the set objectives. We are also in favour of continuing to promote this work in close cooperation with the Rome Based Agencies, Member States and other interested stakeholders within the CFS.

To conclude, our delegation welcomes the topic which has been proposed for the 2024 HLPE report of HLPE, as well as the draft decision. We believe that CFS should work on policy recommendations to strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems in the context of urbanization and rural transformation. This means improved supply chains which provide greater accessibility for those involved in the food system. This is important for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG1 and 11

Niger

Niger, Equatorial Guinea, Mali and Senegal are making this stamen on behalf of the Africa Group. The 2022 report on food security and nutrition in the world clearly indicates that hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms are gaining ground.

Admittedly efforts are being made but we are far from achieving SDG2, namely Zero Hunger.

The international context is dominated by the pandemic, conflict, climate change and inequalities and it means that we are moving further and further away from this goal.

We align ourselves with the conclusion of the HLPE-FSN. We also support the seven key issues set out in their report. They are a priority for Africa.

The aim is more than ever food sovereignty. We would like to take the opportunity at this session to recall that the African Union, together with the FAO and the Rome based agencies have identified these same problems as being fundamental when it comes to consolidating food security.

Moreover, in the recent Malabo declaration, African agriculture ministers, ministers for finances and plan Ministers in coordination with the FAO and these team partners reiterated the political vision they had and their strategic priorities.

This 50th session of the CFS and the current debate on these issues are a real wake up call for Africa and its partners. This is because we must not lose sight of the relevant conclusions of a New York summit in 2021 on food systems. The emphasis may be placed on the guidance provided by African leaders in the common position from Africa, which focuses on putting an end to the erratic nature of these food crises. In order to do this we invite the FAO the other RBAs and other partners involved to follow the provisions and institutional mechanisms which do already exist. There's a question of a real roadmap.

This is what the Malabo Declaration means for Africa. This is a commitment to supporting Africa as it progresses, ensuring that the work program in Africa is inspired by these strategic priorities. It is a question of a dynamic process where you take into account the need for a coherent and inclusive approach, which would grant a special place and role to small scale producers, particularly women and young people.

I would like to conclude by commending the work made by the high level panel of experts. I'd also like to encourage the CFS and the RBAs to ensure that together with member states they follow up on these seven issues which are covered in the report.

Once again, we would like to say that we support these because they are at the core of the transformation of food systems.

France

France aligns itself with the statement made by the Czech Republic on behalf of the Union European Union and its 27 Member States.

France thanks the HLPE for its strategic note which constitutes a major contribution for the CFS response to the food crisis, and which highlights the need for action coordinated and inclusive world. In addition, this report will make it possible to start on the basis scientific and factual updating of the multiannual work programme.

On the exercise itself, we believe that it is a very good practice to leave the HLPE the freedom to propose topics of interest. These reports testify to the function of the HLPE of science-policy interface on global food security and more broadly food systems. The seven critical and emerging questions will

help equip the CFS with in-depth analyses prior to exchanges around concrete and operational solutions for support States and international organizations in the transition to systems sustainable food for healthy diets.

We underscore the relevance of the seven issues identified by the HLPE and look forward to reflect on the future work of the CFS in the light of this knowledge. Strengthening the resilience of food systems for sustainability should help to reflect on the interactions between the different themes. It will be necessary to be careful not to approach issues separately, when a systemic approach is needed.

It is crucial to develop policies and programs that align goals, objectives and incentives and funding. To this end, we encourage all efforts aimed at strengthening the collaboration of the HLPE with other existing science-policy interfaces, in particular the IPCC, IPBES and the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP).

Finally, France supports the Bureau's proposal to invite the HLPE to consider the subject of "urban food systems and rural transformation". The urban/rural territorial approach is indeed crucial for world food security, in particular because of the growing urbanization. This territorial approach to food systems will make it possible to promote local solutions while taking into account all the actors but also the interdependencies specific to a living area (governance, finances, logistics, technical cooperation, services, solidarity). France is at the disposal of the HLPE to support it on all of these aspects.

PSM

Firstly, may I say, as the new chair of the private sector mechanism, that our over one hundred PSM delegates here in person and thirty over from over thirty countries are very happy to participate, and we have over fifty attending virtually. We really welcome the CFS as an inclusive multi stakeholder platform for food security and nutrition and the leadership you have brought to the Committee today.

We also welcome the opportunity to speak on the strategic direction of the committee. The PSM Members have reviewed the HLPE note on critical and emerging issues, and we held an extensive discussion with here in Rome in June.

Five topics emerged for further discussion and development to both augment the existing proposals, and as proposals for new initiatives by the CFS. These are: (i) innovative finance and enabling rural environment, (ii) the role of aquaculture and concurrently delivering ecosystem services and food security and nutrition; (iii) resilient trade and food and nutrition ecosystems; (iv) conflict and crisis and food, resilience, and finally but importantly soil health.

We look forward to participating in the workstream to discuss the 2024-2027 MYPoW and continuing this discussion with members. The PSM welcomes the previous decisions to develop a four years rolling MYPoW. It has allowed CFS to focus time and resources on substantive matters on topics without recurring to procedural issues and provide flexibility to respond to circumstances. In this regard, the discussion this afternoon on guidelines on gender equality, and women's, empowerment into 2023 is welcome.

We would suggest that 2023 schedule needs carefully review both to complete the data collection and analysis workstream and the gender workstream. May I close this intervention by noting the PSM's

support for the recommendation by CFS Bureau and Advisory Group to request the 2024 HLPE report to focus on strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems in the context of urbanization and rural transformation.

PSM members are actively involved in the sector, bringing innovation like controlled environment agriculture and new means to deliver nutritious food. We look forward to providing inputs to the E consultation and discussion that the HLPE will be organizing.

In my capacity as Chair of both the International Agri Food Network and PSM, I look forward to working with all CFS, Member States and stakeholders on these important tasks.

CSIPM

The CSIPM would like to start by expressing its continued deep appreciation for the work of the High Level Panel of Experts as the CFS' mechanism for providing an evidence space for the Committee's policy discussions. We feel it is unique because of its multi sectoral scope, its balanced composition, its interactive, participatory approach to developing its reports and the fact that it recognizes the validity of traditional indigenous and practitioners' knowledge. Like Switzerland, we appreciate the fact that you have added the term enduring to the title of their reports. We feel this testifies to the deep-rooted structural nature of the causes of the multiple food crises we are living today, as was discussed amply yesterday. We appreciate also the Chair reminding us of the six roles of the CFS starting with the global policy coordination role, for which we made a proposal yesterday that is on the table, in which we feel that the HLPE also has an important role to play as a demonstrated by the excellent 2018 report on building a global narrative for food security and nutrition.

In developing our proposals for the coming 2024-2027 MYPoW, the CSIPM will be drawing on the outcomes of our popular consultation, on which we reported yesterday, which has gathered over five hundred and fifty responses from seventy countries around the world.

Some of the important issues that have been voiced repeatedly in different regions are already covered by the HLPE proposed themes, such as climate change, food workers rights, conflicts, and the fragility of food systems. We feel that the CFS needs to take up its responsibility in avoiding that food be weaponized, and to put a stop to the ordeal of the millions of people who are suffering the consequences of conflicts and losing their lives on immigration death boats.

Other themes that have been voiced repeatedly in our consultations are not touched on or not focused on in the seven themes of the high-level panel of experts' document, such as the importance of social and solidarity economies and the urgency of popular agrarian reform.

We commit to contributing the voices from the ground to framing priorities for the CFS coming work, so we will be continuing our process of internal consultation within the CSIPM over the next weeks, and we will submit our proposal within the timeframe that's foreseen for this process.

We will be commenting on the report of the 2024 report, when this item comes up, and let me just close by expressing our appreciation to the Africa group for recalling that small scale producers, particularly women and youth, need to be at the center of the work of the High Level Panel of Experts and of the CFS.

Japan

Japan appreciates the preparation of the report titled "Critical, Emerging and Persistent Issues on Food Security and Nutrition." It is our understanding that the report will be used as a reference document in the future development of MYPoW from 2024 to 2027.

Of the seven key issues presented in the report, all of which are important. However, Japan would like to ask why the Secretariat has selected the one issue titled "Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems to achieve food security and nutrition in the context of urbanization and rural transformation" and presented it as a proposed theme for the CFS-HLPE Report 2024. We would like to ask if there is any reason why the Secretariat has determined that it has a higher priority than the other key issues.

In addition, with this year designated as the "International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture", the importance of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture to global food security, nutrition, and livelihoods should be emphasized. The 10th anniversary of the "Policy Recommendations on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition" approved by CFS41 should be celebrated in 2024. Therefore, Japan believes the monitoring of the implementation of the Policy Recommendations should be included in the work schedule for the development of MYPoW 2024-2027.

Finally, Japan notes that in the key issue No.3 titled "Conflict and food system vulnerability", it is stated that "humanitarian short-term and emergency responses are extremely important, but they do not enable long-term peace and sustainable food system development". In providing assistances to vulnerable countries, in addition to short-term emergency humanitarian assistance, it is important to promote their efforts at each stage of procurement, production, processing, distribution, and consumption, as well as to promote innovation in reducing environmental burdens from a medium- to long-term perspective in order to transform sustainable food systems. In particular, Japan would like to emphasize the importance of improving agricultural productivity and efficient use of fertilizers at the production stage under the current situation where food security is in a very serious condition.

Russian Federation

Our delegation supports the importance of the HLPE seven key issues to have an impact on food security and accessible nutrition for all.

To save time, I will comment on two aspects. Firstly, in accordance with the recommendations of the UN summit on food systems of 2021, there is a need to increase smart investment in food systems, in particular in developing countries. The situation that developing countries are facing where there is a lack of financial and technical support on the one hand, and growing requirements to ensure sustainable biodiverse sustainability and biodiversity on the other hand is unacceptable. The corresponding support will be provided including in the area of technology transfer. Secondly, we would like to draw attention on the selective approach and the analysis of a key issues influencing food security.

Despite the corresponding demand by a number of countries at the previous session of CFS, the experts did not believe it was required to evaluate the impact of unilateral economic, financial and trade measures on food security and nutrition.

Passing over this problem is something that we would like to highlight here. Let's take this opportunity as a delegation of Russia to once again recall this issue. According to the UN, at the moment, around about 70 countries are under unilateral sanctions. Many of them are on the list of the most food vulnerable countries. These include Syria, Yemen, Palestine and others. This is why the Secretary General of the UN in 2020 called during the pandemic for all sanctions to be removed from countries to ensure access to medical services and food products. When it comes to unilateral sanctions developing and other countries have clearly expressed their position in December of 2021 in voting 126 for, with 6 against and 46 Abstentions, in favour of the resolution of the UN General Assembly 76/191 on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic pressure on developing countries. Passing over this problem in the future or staying silent on it in this difficult situation that we are facing, could lead could lead to a worse situation in this area by 2030.

WFP

The World Food Programme commends the HLPE-FSN for the development of the third note on critical emerging and enduring issues for food, security and nutrition. A critical milestone in view of the next CFS MYPoW.

The issue of conflicts and the fragility of food systems highlighted by the note is of crucial importance. Conflicts often occur alongside climate shocks, natural disasters, and their economic effects remain one of the main drivers of hunger and malnutrition in all of its forms, which in turn can be drivers of conflict.

This vicious cycle represents a threat to the survival of young children and women often generating adverse effects that span across generations.

The note also puts the spotlight on the fragility of food systems, strengthening national food systems to deliver nutritious food of adequate quantity and quality for all as critically important to boost longer term resilience.

This is particularly relevant to WFP's mandate and approach. We have an unparalleled reach and presence in fragile context, where we provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance for at risk populations.

At the same time we also support communities, and nations with long-term solutions that promote to access to healthier diets. We do this through a wide range of actions on the supply-demand continuum from restoring markets and supporting smallholders in producing more diverse foods to enabling the most vulnerable to purchase nutritious food through cash assistance. We would like to highlight the importance of including these considerations in the CFS2024-2027.

We would also like to extend our special thanks to the High-Level Panel of Experts for the sustained commitment to identifying policy solutions that can transform food systems for healthier diets, leaving no one behind.

FAO

Let me start by saying that the FAO mandate and the new strategic framework capture all the seven areas that you are referring to as priority areas. We believe it is extremely important to look at all the different topics, especially to build resilient and equitable supply chains. We will call it resilient agri-food systems.

We also believe that all the different elements of urban and peri-urban continuum will be extremely relevant. Next year's SOFI report will be focusing on urbanization and the impacts of urbanization on food security and nutrition. And the SOFA of last year focused on resilience and resilience indicators.

At the same time conflict, as we all know, and, as it was explained during the sessions yesterday is the first driver of food insecurity. It is one of the first drivers of food crisis countries, and therefore it is extremely important to focus on that. But for sure, that is part of the resilience. So that is where we need to put a lot of emphasis on.

One topic which has not been touched too much, which is the thematic topic in area number five, recognizing the role and rights of food systems workers. And we refer to agri-food systems because the agricultural system not only includes food, but also fibres for example.

It is a topic where CFS can do a lot of new things and it interlinks also with the mandate of ILO. It is a topic where I think a lot of work has to be done is still in trying to identify the different segments of the workers in the agricultural system. How we can create a more inclusive system and a more equal system is linked to the gender topic that we were discussing before, given that the agricultural aggregate food system has significant segmentation in terms of the gender specificities.

The other issue I wanted to raise is the importance of looking at the system approach. There are seven areas but all of these areas are interlinked, and that is something that we need to bring up across all the different analyses that are done. Not to look at the specific topic, but to understand the interlinkages across the different topics, and in the linkages across different sectors.

So I will propose defining those interlinkages as a cross cutting activity. That is the only way that we will really be talking about systems and not talking about the specific topics which are relevant. The last two comments that I want to raise is the importance of having a framework of prioritization, because clearly the MYPoW cannot cover all these topics and clearly CFS has a clear mandate on what is role is within these topics.

So that dimension of prioritization will be very important to have a targeted MYPOW which will not be overcharged with topics and which will allow us to be very effective in the areas where CFS can really play a big role.