

CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting and CFS Bureau meeting

Date: 24 September 2024

Time: 09:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 - 17:00

Hybrid meeting (FAO Lebanon Room and Zoom Platform)

**Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes -
With Bureau Decision**

Agenda

1. CFS 52 Preparation update
2. Strengthening Coordinated Policy Responses to the Food Crisis – The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024
3. Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation
4. Promoting Food Security and Nutrition Across the Rural-Urban Continuum: Strengthening Urban and Peri-urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation - Draft Workplan
5. CFS budget update
6. CFS Calendar - Potential dates for 2025
7. Any Other Business

The CFS Chairperson, Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, welcomed CFS Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group Members to the joint meeting and outlined the provisional agenda.

The agenda was adopted.

Participants were informed that the meeting would be recorded, per usual practice, for the Secretariat's note-taking purposes.

1. CFS 52 Preparation update (for discussion)

The CFS Chairperson presented the Guide to CFS 52 document, which serves as an informational document for the Plenary, noting that it will be regularly updated by the CFS Secretariat as confirmed speakers for the various events are finalized.

While outlining the overall objectives and structure of each session during Plenary week, Bureau and Advisory Group members requested additional details regarding the time allocated during the floor interventions. It was clarified that, as usual, 5 minutes for regional group representatives and 3 minutes for countries are allocated.

Additionally, concerning the following agenda items:

- *“Strengthening Coordinated Policy Responses to the Food Crisis - The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024”*, it was clarified that following panel discussion during the item IIb (presentation of SOFI report) and item II d (briefing on ongoing international initiatives against hunger and Poverty) no open Q&A session is envisaged;
- *“Strengthening the impact of CFS policy products”*, the crucial role of the Rome-Based Agencies (RBAs) was emphasized, particularly on how CFS Policy Products could be used to complement the RBA workplans.
- adoption of the CFS policy recommendations on *reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition*, a suggestion to invite a keynote speaker from the Global South was made.

Bureau discussion

The Bureau discussion reflected the key points of the morning session.

2. [Strengthening Coordinated Policy Responses to the Food Crisis – The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024 – Draft Conclusions \(For discussion and Bureau decision\)](#)

The CFS Chairperson presented the background document for this agenda item, which summarizes the informal discussions held on September 6 and 20 during the Friends of the Chair meetings, which were kindly chaired by the Ambassador of Mexico, H.E. Miguel Garcia Winder. She also highlighted that the draft contains a proposed paragraph in brackets, referring to ongoing conflicts such as those in Gaza, Sudan, and Haiti.

Bureau Decision

After considering several text proposals as alternatives to the bracketed paragraph, the Bureau decided to retain the version that resulted from the last Friends of the Chair meeting (which includes one bracketed paragraph), with the addition of the editorial change proposed by FAO on the SOFI figures.

The Chairperson encouraged Members to gather under the informal Friends of the Chair meetings in order to explore options to reach a compromise on the bracketed paragraph and present a clean version to Plenary. The Final draft is attached hereto.

3. [Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation \(for discussion\)](#)

The Vice-Chairperson presented the main elements of the Chair’s summary report on the two meetings under this workstream in 2024, including a (non-exhaustive) list of topics for future

meetings. These would be prioritized in collaboration with the Bureau and Advisory Group soon after CFS52.

Several Members of the Bureau and Advisory Group requested the opportunity of submitting inputs, particularly on the topics for future meetings.

The CFS Secretary announced that an email will be circulated soon for a written procedure with a short period for inputs.

Bureau Discussion

The Bureau agreed on the proposal by the CFS-Chairperson to set Monday, 30 September, as a deadline for input by the Bureau and Advisory Group.

4. [Promoting Food Security and Nutrition Across the Rural-Urban Continuum: Strengthening Urban and Peri-urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation - Draft Workplan \(for discussion and Bureau Decision\)](#)

The Vice-Chairperson introduced the workplan for the upcoming policy convergence process on “*Strengthening Urban and Peri-urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation*”. She explained the rationale behind the preparation of the workplan, which is to frontload activities in December in order to avoid: a) holding meetings in January when many people are still on leave, and b) holding negotiations in the weeks immediately preceding the FAO Conference. As a result, the first round of negotiations is proposed for the first week of June. Options for the second round of negotiations are very limited due to several governing body meetings scheduled for the week of July 7–11. The Vice-Chair also emphasized that all these dates are still pending confirmation from the FAO Conference and Services.

Bureau and Advisory Group members welcomed the document, stressing the importance of avoiding back-to-back scheduling of CFS meetings with other governing body meetings.

The HLPE-FSN coordinator ad-interim also informed participants that at the end of October, an event titled “*The Right to Adequate Food in Urban and Peri-Urban Areas: Achievements, Challenges, and the Way Forward*” will be co-organized by the HLPE-FSN and the FAO RtF team. The event aims to highlight the integration of the right to food and the right to the city in all measures addressing food insecurity in urban and peri-urban contexts. It will advocate for equitable, sustainable, and resilient food systems through multilevel governance and human rights-based approaches.

Bureau Decision

The Bureau approved the work plan (pending confirmation by FAO Conference and Services) and enthusiastically endorsed, with a round of applause, the nomination of Dr. Jujjavarapu Balaji, Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD, and WFP from the Embassy of India, as the Rapporteur for the upcoming policy convergence process.

The Bureau also requested to include, at its November meeting, an agenda item on the composition of the Technical Task Team (TTT) for this workstream, with a view to consider whether the TTT might be expanded beyond FAO, IFAD and WFP.

5. CFS budget update (with Bureau Discussion)

The CFS Secretary provided an overview of the CFS budget, specifying the support provided by the RBAs as well as the extrabudgetary resources by external donors or voluntary contributions.

Bureau and Advisory Group Members welcomed the presentation, which was clarified that it will be available in the CFS working space and requested more clarity in relation to the RBAs contribution, and the rationale behind the allocation of the voluntary contributions. The Secretary explained that voluntary contributions support the implementation of inter-sessional activities and negotiations for the policy convergence process identified in the MYPoW.

Moreover, it was requested whether there is a CFS mechanism in place for resource mobilization and engagement with the private sector. The Secretary also shared that it is relevant to identify new sources of funding, nevertheless the CFS should comply with the FAO rules and regulation for engagement with private entities to avoid any potential conflict of interest.

It was also asked to make the budget presentation easier to read. Specifically, it was noted that the IFAD contributions refer to when they were actually received in FAO Accounts. Contribution 2021 totalled USD 500,000 in two instalments, first in December 2021 (USD 100,000) and the second (USD 400,000) in February 2022 (indicated in the table).It was noted that this may be reflected in the document, accordingly.

Bureau and Advisory Group Members also kindly requested to share the background documents for the Bureau and Advisory Group meetings two weeks in advance.

Bureau Discussion

No further discussion occurred under this agenda item as it was exhausted during the BAG session in the morning.

6. CFS Calendar - Potential dates for 2025 (For Information)

An overview of the proposed CFS calendar for 2025 was provided, with the explanation that the proposed dates are pending official confirmation from FAO Conference and Services. It was confirmed that the proposed dates were identified based on the available slots in the RBAs calendar.

Regarding the proposed dates for CFS 53, reference was made to the discussions held at the Bureau meeting on 13 March during which “the possibility for the CFS Chair to explore, in line with existing rules and regulations, the option of scheduling the CFS Plenary Session before the World Food Week, starting from 2025 onwards” was highlighted.

With reference to the proposal of holding CFS 52 from 6 to 9 October 2025, it was suggested avoiding holding it back-to-back with the World Food Forum. The importance of consulting with FAO management to discuss this matter was underlined.

Bureau Discussion

The CFS Chairperson confirmed that consultations with FAO management and Conference and Service on the CFS 2025 calendar will take place soon.

7. Any Other Business

The CFS Chair presented the newly designed format of the “CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition”, accompanied by a concise two-pager summarizing key information for easier dissemination, and this was applauded.

Bureau discussion

Bureau members were reminded about the importance of submitting nominations for the CFS 52 Drafting Committee members and Chair as soon as possible in order for the CFS Secretariat to organize a preparatory meeting in advance of the CFS Plenary

Annex 1: Attendance list Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

CFS Bureau Members: Ambassador Nosipho Jezile (Chair), Ms Jenny Reid (New Zealand), Mr Emile Butoy (Burundi), Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil), Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran (Nigeria), Mr Hanghao Li (China), Mr Jujjavarapu Balaji (India), Mr Michele Leveque (France), Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland), Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt), Yousef Juhail (Kuwait); Ms Ronit Gerard, Ms Brenda Lyell (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates: Ms Claudia Gonzáles Toledo (Cuba); Ms Berioska Morrison (Dominican Republic), Mr Abdelaziz Zidani (Morocco); Ms Ingrid H. Dana (Norway); Ms Catalina Constantin, Ms Larisa Petre (Romania); Ms Supajit Sriariyawat, Ms Pathumwadee Imtour (Thailand).

Advisory Group: Ms Dubravka Bojic, Mr Rabi Raut (FAO), Mr Guenter Hemrich; Ms Elena Bertusi, Ms Maja Peltola (IFAD); Mr Jacopo Valentini, Ms Shannon Howard (WFP); Ms Trudy Wijnhoven (UN Nutrition); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (Gates Foundation); Ms Ludovica Donati (PFM); Ms Paola De Meo (Special Rapporteur Right to Food); Ms Magdalena Ackermann, Ms Nora Mcheon, Ms Giulia Simula, Ms Dee Woods (CSIPM); Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM), James Giarret (CGIAR),

Observers: Ms Paola De Meo (HLPE-FSN StC)

Support to the CFS Chairperson: Mr Bennie Lombard (South Africa)

CFS Secretariat:

Ms Adriana Herrera Moreno, Ms Fatiha Terki, Mr Marco Marzano, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Carolin Busch, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Riccardo Mazzucchelli, Ms Marlène Wasek, Ms Raquel Morato Hernandez, Ms Valentina Delle Fratte, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Eleonora Viotti, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Silvia Meiattini (HLPE-FSN Secretariat)

Annex 2: Attendance list Bureau meeting

CFS Bureau Members: Ambassador Nosipho Jezile (Chair), Ms Jenny Reid (New Zealand), Mr Emile Butoy (Burundi), Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil), Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran (Nigeria), Mr Hanghao Li (China), Mr Jujjavarapu Balaji (India), Mr Michele Leveque (France), Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland), Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt), Yousef Juhail (Kuwait), Ms Ronit Gerard, Ms Brenda Lyell (USA), Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina)

CFS Bureau Alternates: Ms Claudia Gonzáles Toledo (Cuba); Ms Berioska Morrison (Dominican Republic), Mr Abdelaziz Zidani (Morocco); Ms Ingrid H. Dana (Norway); Ms Supajit Sriariyawat, Ms Pathumwadee Imtour (Thailand)

Observers: Ms Paola De Meo (HLPE-FSN StC)

Support to the CFS Chairperson: Mr Bennie Lombard (South Africa).

CFS Secretariat:

Ms Adriana Herrera Moreno, Ms Fatiha Terki, Mr Marco Marzano, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Carolin Busch, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Riccardo Mazzucchelli, Ms Marlène Wasek, Ms Raquel Morato Hernandez, Ms Valentina Delle Fratte, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Eleonora Viotti, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Silvia Meiattini (HLPE-FSN Secretariat)

Annex 3

II. b STRENGTHENING COORDINATED POLICY RESPONSES TO THE FOOD CRISIS –THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2024 – Draft Conclusions

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee:

- a) Welcomes the collaboration between FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO on the 2024 report on the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI);
- b) Expresses deep concern over the current global food security crisis, with an estimated- global prevalence of undernourishment of 9.1 percent – between 713 and 757 million people - in 2023 that has persisted at nearly the same level for three consecutive years after having risen sharply in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Going beyond hunger, expresses deep concern over the estimated 28.9 percent of the global population – 2.33 billion people – who were moderately or severely food insecure in 2023, with low-income countries having the largest percentage of the population that is unable to afford a healthy diet;
- c) Emphasizes the need for a common definition and understanding of financing for food security and nutrition, including addressing the major drivers and structural underlying factors of food insecurity and malnutrition, and methods for its mapping, tracking, measurement and implementation, as an important first step towards sustainably increasing the financing flows needed to end hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition and ensuring access to healthy diets for all, as financing and financial inclusion are key means of implementation of the SDGs;
- d) Calls on leveraging the convening power of the CFS in advancing a shared understanding of financing for food security and nutrition and its mapping, in line with the progressive realization of the Right to adequate Food, particularly in the context of the workstream “Strengthening responsible investment and financing for food security and nutrition”;
- e) Takes note of the Issues Paper on “Conflict-induced acute food crises: potential policy responses in light of current emergencies”, including its overview and recommendations of immediate, medium term and long-term responses to famine, produced by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition;
- f) Recalls that in conflict areas there exists an obligation under International Humanitarian Law on the protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the

civilian population and the prohibition to use starvation of civilians as a method of warfare¹;

[proposed new para: Recalls the need to strive to ensure the protection of those affected or at risk [including] in Gaza, Sudan and Haiti as well as in other protracted crises, underscoring the importance of upholding human rights obligations and International Humanitarian Law, as applicable;]

- g) Recalls also the CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA) and its relevant application, including in the context of the humanitarian peace-development nexus, and in the important technical role of the Rome-based Agencies, in assessing and addressing, within their mandates and expertise, the impact of all ongoing conflicts on food security and nutrition, while noting Members' interventions on this matter and calls for strengthened awareness, ownership and use of the CFS Framework for Action on Food Security in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA);
- h) Acknowledges the Chair's report on 'Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses' and encourages broad engagement in this workstream with a view to achieving the objectives of identifying signs of emerging food crises and timely actions, thereby, contributing to achieving the progressive realization of the right to adequate food and also promoting the transformation of food systems;
- i) Welcomes the creation of a Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, under Brazil's G20 presidency, and looks forward to its launch at the G20 Leaders' Summit in November 2024 to support and accelerate efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger (SDGs 1 and 2), while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs;
- j) Encourages broad participation of all stakeholders in the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty and close collaboration with the CFS, taking into consideration CFS's role on providing guidance and inputs to Members on matters related to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food and the eradication of hunger and all forms of malnutrition;
- k) Underlines that progress in nutrition remains uneven with 2.8 billion people unable to afford healthy diets and high prevalence of the double burden of malnutrition (undernutrition and overnutrition) and invites stakeholders to engage in the Nutrition for Growth Summit Paris, which will take place in March 2025.

¹ Article 54 of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 8 June 1977),