

## U.S. Comments on the CFS Uptake Workstream Action Plan Outline

March 7, 2024

We appreciate the work of the secretariat and Rapporteurs. This outline is a useful first step in identifying concrete actions to increase the impact and ownership of CFS products. We need this work to focus on increasing the relevance and visibility of CFS products. We need to focus on a set of concise pragmatic actions and recommendations that are easy to interpret and accomplish.

**Structure of the Action Plan Should Reflect Dynamic Nature of System and Engagement Among Stakeholders:** We need all stakeholders to play an active role in this. That said, the current outline presents a very stovepiped and potentially unhelpful and constraining approach to considering key actions that can be taken to address impact and ownership of CFS products. Rather, it would be helpful to see this Action Plan broken down into two distinct areas of intervention.

1. Prioritization, Review and Ownership of Policy Agreements
2. Promotion, Dissemination and Uptake of Policy Agreements

Within each of these areas, we would like to see concrete actions with a listed responsible/lead stakeholder (i.e., CFS, CFS members, UN agencies, etc). This would convey the collaborative and dynamic nature of the multilateral system's work. This breakdown could also present a better way to assess the effectiveness of our actions and remind us of the focus of this work. Each action item should be prioritized and assigned, a timeframe and whether there is a resource requirement needed to move this action forward. There should be specific and targeted actions and there should be recommendations.

**Action Plan Should Initiate Ongoing Discussion to Refine and Improve Use and Uptake of CFS Products:** This Action Plan should not create new work but should be a tool that stakeholders can use as needed. We believe that this should be the start of an ongoing discussion within CFS and the CFS bureau about how to dynamically and over time seek to constantly improve the use and uptake of CFS products. This will reflect the reality that identifying best practices and implementing them is an ongoing process. The action plan should reflect our best and most practical ideas now and be a living document open to refinement and updates each year as new and more efficient and effective actions are identified. The UN system and debate amongst members is constantly evolving, such an approach would take that into consideration as well.

**Actions Should Optimize Use of the Existing Multilateral Architecture:** We need to avoid creating more workstreams. Instead, we should try to identify existing platforms, existing lessons learned, existing examples of success to build out this tool and help to ensure that CFS is effectively situated in the multilateral architecture. This should not be an exhaustive list at this point and should be informed by where CFS is situated within the multilateral ecosystem. Only once all Members have an understanding of how it currently fits, can we make recommendations about how to ensure it is most effectively aligned with the multilateral system and discussions to facilitate uptake. We strongly support the inclusion of an assessment as an action item, not to preclude the inclusion of other items that could have near-term impact based on existing information and knowledge about the use and uptake of CFS products.