



# COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

<b>Forty-fifth Session</b> <i>"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"</i>
<b>Rome, Italy, 15-19 October 2018</b>
<b>CFS EVALUATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESPONSE TO THE EVALUATION - WITH DRAFT DECISION</b>

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CFS 45

## MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

CFS 2018/45/3 “CFS Evaluation: Implementation of the Response to the Evaluation - with Draft Decision” presented by Ms. Jiani Tian (China) and Mr. Oliver Mellenthin (Germany), co-facilitators of the process.

The Committee:

- a) Expresses its appreciation to Ms. Jiani Tian (China) and Mr. Oliver Mellenthin (Germany) for facilitating the implementation of the response to the evaluation leading up to CFS 45.
- b) Endorses the “CFS Evaluation: Implementation of the Response to the Evaluation - with Draft Decision” (CFS 2018/45/3), acknowledging that the Reform Document remains the cornerstone of CFS work.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### CFS vision<sup>1</sup>

The CFS is and remains an intergovernmental Committee in FAO. The reformed CFS as a central component of the evolving Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, will constitute the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. The CFS will strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

1. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) carried out the reform in 2009 so that it can fully play its respective role in the area of food security and nutrition (FSN) in line with its vision. The Reform Document remains the cornerstone of CFS work. The Implementation Report documents the implementation of the Plan of Action (PoA)<sup>2</sup> with the response to the recommendations from the CFS Independent Evaluation conducted in 2016-2017<sup>3</sup>. The report seeks to clarify or revitalize particular elements of the reform to strengthen CFS as the most inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for FSN, considering the worrisome situation of increasing hunger and malnutrition<sup>4</sup>, the new global FSN environment shaped by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, follow-up to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, the UN Decade on Family Farming and other relevant initiatives.

2. The CFS Bureau, that was given the mandate at CFS 44 to finalize and implement the PoA, nominated two co-facilitators to lead the process, which included inclusive discussions with all CFS stakeholders in the form of open meetings, and a Bureau retreat to brainstorm on how best to proceed with an effective and efficient implementation process. Written inputs, bilateral meetings and meetings of friends of co-facilitators along the way ensured voices were heard and there was active

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<sup>1</sup> CFS:2009/2 Rev.2.

<sup>2</sup> CFS:2018/45/XX (Plan of Action).

<sup>3</sup> CFS:2017/44/Inf.23.

<sup>4</sup> The state of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, 2017.

communication. All information was shared with CFS stakeholders in an open and timely manner through the CFS Working Space to keep the process transparent and synchronized with stakeholders.

3. The implementation of the PoA is intended to improve the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of CFS, stimulating its potential and that of its policy products and recommendations, which are used and applied on a voluntary basis, towards the realization of the CFS vision and better responding to future challenges. CFS will serve as a platform dealing with FSN guided by the three key principles of the reform: inclusiveness, strong linkages to the reality on the ground and flexibility in implementation.

4. Section II of the report presents the measures that have been taken to address the challenges faced by CFS, which were based on the conclusions of the Evaluation Report and identified during the preparation of the Plan of Action. Section III presents more information and the proposals requested in the PoA.

## **II. KEY ELEMENTS TO IMPROVE CFS**

5. The implementation of the PoA is directed toward strengthening CFS to address future challenges in a world where food insecurity and malnutrition are on the rise again. The great efforts that have been made to discuss the evaluation results and reach consensus on the content of the Implementation Report show the determination of stakeholders to tackle present problems and inefficiencies in the functioning of CFS in order to ensure its full relevance within the UN system and the governance of world food security.

6. CFS has an important role to play as a key organ in addressing the issues of global FSN<sup>5</sup>. CFS is an integral component of the governance of world food security. CFS should make full use of its unique role to prioritize and focus on FSN issues with a clearer strategic direction where it has comparative advantage<sup>6</sup>. The intensive debates among CFS stakeholders about the implementation confirm the renewed commitment by all to CFS and long-term support for its vision, activities and policy convergence and coherence work among stakeholders, across sectors and across global, regional and national levels.

7. Seven key elements have been identified to address the challenges that CFS faces and provide the basis of a holistic approach for the implementation process<sup>7</sup>. The following paragraphs describe how these elements will improve CFS:

- 1) **DIRECTION** – Providing more strategic direction to strengthen CFS to achieve its vision.
- 2) **DEMAND DRIVEN** - Ensuring that CFS work is guided by its vision and the needs of the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition and anchored to realities on the ground.
- 3) **PRIORITIZATION** - Ensuring the effective prioritization and selection of CFS work that can most directly contribute to a positive impact on food insecure and malnourished people in line with the CFS vision.
- 4) **EVIDENCE/SCIENCE-BASED** – Maximizing the value of the inputs from the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE).

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<sup>5</sup> United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/223, 22 December 2015, Para.30.

<sup>6</sup> The main comparative advantages of CFS are mentioned in Section B of the Annex.

<sup>7</sup> A detailed overview action by action is provided in Overview of the implementation status of the Plan of Action (CFS:2018/45/Inf.15).

- 5) OWNERSHIP - Creating political momentum, resulting in the involvement and commitment of high-level representatives of Member States.
- 6) UPTAKE – Increasing awareness of CFS and promoting the dissemination, use and application, and follow-up and review of CFS products and recommendations at all levels.
- 7) FUNDING - Ensuring adequate and sustainable funding for the Plenary and workstreams, HLPE and the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM).

## DIRECTION

### *Providing more strategic direction to strengthen CFS to achieve its vision*

8. CFS work will focus on activities that identify and address the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition with a focus on the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. Gender equality, women's and girls' rights and women's empowerment in the context of FSN will be mainstreamed in all CFS workstreams and products. In order to provide more medium-to-long term strategic direction to guide its work, CFS has clarified the contribution of its six roles, set out in the Reform Document, to the CFS vision and how and by whom they should be performed. The six roles are:

Role 1: Coordination at global level

Role 2: Policy convergence

Role 3: Support and advice to countries and regions

Role 4: Coordination at national and regional levels

Role 5 Promote accountability and share best practices at all levels

Role 6: Develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition

CFS has also developed strategic objectives and expected outcomes that will set the focus of CFS activities for the next 4-year Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW).

9. All CFS roles were recognized to be important and interconnected, jointly contributing to achieving the CFS vision and requiring the active involvement of CFS Member States and stakeholders at all levels. In the next 2020-2023 MYPoW, CFS will focus its resources on performing Role 1, Role 2 and Role 5 in a more demand-driven way and with greater efficiency and effectiveness as well as Role 6. Recognizing that CFS is an intergovernmental body and not an implementing body (Evaluation report, Conclusion 4, ES30.)<sup>8</sup>, Roles 3 and 4 will mainly rely on government initiatives, possibly in collaboration with the Rome-based agencies (RBAs), other UN bodies and other stakeholders that have an implementation and coordination role at national and regional levels. CFS will however continue to perform Roles 3 and 4 by facilitating and providing advice on approaches to improving FSN and promoting the use and application of CFS products at country and regional levels, e.g. through compiling and sharing experiences and good practices, on leveraging existing FSN multistakeholder platforms or establishing them.

10. The MYPoW strategic objectives are based on the CFS roles, referring to global priorities in the field of FSN and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They are informed by HLPE Critical and Emerging Issues Notes, the RBAs technical work and other relevant UN sources. They

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<sup>8</sup> Evaluation report, Conclusion 4, ES30.

promote the recognition of CFS as the leading and inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for FSN and keep FSN high on the global development agenda.

11. Three interlinked strategic objectives will help channel CFS energy and resources for the next 4-year MYPoW activities that respond to the needs of the food insecure and malnourished people and will contribute to achieving the CFS vision. CFS will support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing primarily on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and its linkages with other SDGs and targets relevant to FSN, guided by the following strategic objectives for MYPoW 2020-2023.

- Strategic Objective 1 – PLATFORM: Leverage the convening power as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform to discuss the FSN situation and coordinate collective action at all levels
- Strategic Objective 2 – POLICY: Develop voluntary global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food
- Strategic Objective 3 – UPTAKE: Foster the uptake, follow-up and review, and sharing of experiences and best practices on the use and application of CFS products at all levels

#### DEMAND-DRIVEN

*Ensuring that CFS work is guided by the needs of the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition and anchored to realities on the ground*

12. The Plenary will be provided space to define demands and identify priority issues in the field of FSN through multistakeholder dialogue. A more prominent role will be given to the Plenary in proposing, discussing and giving guidance on the MYPoW. This is in line with the provision of the CFS Reform Document which states that the Plenary “should focus on relevant and specific issues related to FSN in order to provide guidance and actionable recommendations to assist all stakeholders in eradicating hunger”<sup>9</sup>.

13. Ensuring CFS is more demand-driven is the responsibility of all CFS Member States and Participants, through nurturing and maintaining linkages with different actors at regional and national levels. The Advisory Group will contribute to making CFS work more demand-driven by providing inputs to the Bureau, on request, on the needs for FSN policy work on behalf of their constituencies that will be regularly consulted in an open format.

#### PRIORITIZATION

*Ensuring the effective prioritization and selection of CFS work that can most directly contribute to a positive impact on food insecure and malnourished people in line with the CFS vision.*

14. The new MYPoW preparation process will lead to a more effective prioritization of CFS thematic workstreams. A feasible and realistic MYPoW will be prepared, taking into account resources, workload, and the resource mobilization potential. The new process will also contribute to strengthening ownership and commitment of CFS stakeholders in implementing the results of CFS policy work as well as optimizing the use of HLPE inputs to support CFS thematic workstreams. CFS workstreams will be limited to enhance the quality and inclusiveness of the process. An appropriate

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<sup>9</sup> CFS:2009/2 Rev.2, para.20.

prioritization and selection process is key to enhance the relevance of activities, ensure the quality of outputs, and to allow sufficient time for stakeholders to coordinate with their constituencies.

15. The various CFS activities aim at producing different types of outputs, including inclusive discussions, global policy guidance resulting from negotiations, updates of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF), communication and outreach-related outputs and conclusions of follow-up and review sessions.

16. The MYPoW preparation process will start with a Plenary session dedicated to discussing critical and emerging FSN issues, to share views and come up with potential issues to be addressed by CFS<sup>10</sup>. This will not prevent CFS stakeholders from considering additional issues in the following steps of the process. The process will involve all interested stakeholders through open consultations. The Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group, will finalize the draft MYPoW to be presented to the Plenary for consideration and endorsement.

17. Precise criteria for prioritizing CFS thematic workstreams will be applied. The criteria include the contribution of the activities to the CFS vision and the overall objective of addressing the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition. They also include the MYPoW strategic objectives, their added value considering CFS comparative advantages, their relevance to FSN global priorities and commitment of CFS stakeholders to use and apply the policy product resulting from the activity. The selection of CFS activities will take into account resources and workload.

#### EVIDENCE/SCIENCE-BASED

##### *Maximizing the value of the inputs from the HLPE*

18. It is recognized that CFS stakeholders, such as the RBAs and other UN bodies, CSM, the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) and CGIAR provide substantial technical inputs to the development of CFS policy work. The CFS Evaluation specifically reviewed the contribution of the HLPE. The HLPE was established as part of the CFS Reform to strengthen CFS through FSN-related expertise, identify emerging issues, and help Member States prioritize future action and attention on key focal areas<sup>11</sup>.

19. The HLPE supports CFS with structured expertise and its key functions<sup>12</sup> so that the decisions and the work of the CFS are based on the best available evidence and knowledge, utilizing and synthesizing high quality existing research and analyses. Regular and sustained interaction between the HLPE Steering Committee and the Bureau and Advisory Group will be set up, in particular on substantive issues. Advice and focused interventions will be provided by the HLPE at the request of CFS to maximize the value of the HLPE in supporting CFS policy convergence and coherence work as a complement to the main HLPE products (typically substantive reports), subject to HLPE resources and workload.

20. As CFS is an intergovernmental body, the HLPE priority setting will receive guidance from the Plenary and Bureau. As part of the MYPoW preparation process, the production of HLPE reports/analyses as an input/background document for CFS discussions will be based on a clear understanding that, through the Plenary and the Bureau, the report aims to support CFS Member States and other stakeholders in designing strategies and programs for addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, how it will feed into the process considering the timescale, and the availability of information on the subject under discussion. The Plenary can continue to request HLPE to produce a

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<sup>10</sup> See Section B of the annex.

<sup>11</sup> CFS 2009/2 Rev.2, para.37.

<sup>12</sup> CFS:2009/2 Rev.2, para.37.

note on critical and emerging issues. Plenary will discuss this note and provide guidance to the MYPOW process.

## OWNERSHIP

### *Creating political momentum, resulting in the involvement and commitment of high-level representatives of Member States*

21. As outlined in the Reform Document, the Plenary is the central body for decision-taking, debate, coordination, lesson-learning and convergence by all stakeholders at global level on issues pertaining to FSN and the achievement of the CFS vision<sup>13</sup>, while voting and decision-taking remain the exclusive prerogative of Member States<sup>14</sup>. The Plenary plays a critical role in creating political momentum and all efforts will be made to make Plenary more vibrant with an agenda that attracts high level participants who have the ability to bring about changes at national level. The communication strategy will include a media plan for Plenary<sup>15</sup>.

22. The agenda will reflect critical, urgent and emerging issues on the global FSN agenda, with high-level, innovative roundtables and forums that include stakeholders from the CSM and PSM, think tanks, financial institutions and researchers to encourage more interactive and substantive dialogues on FSN, while ensuring a balance with its decision-taking function. This will contribute to reinforce the CFS role as a platform and confirm that CFS is a place for generating ideas and synergies, and to promote policy coordination and convergence.

23. The MYPoW preparation process leading to the prioritization of MYPoW thematic workstreams will strengthen stakeholders' ownership through their direct involvement from the initiation phase and their commitment to the implementation of the policy work resulting from the proposed activity.

24. The participation and involvement of all Member States in CFS intersessional activities will be strengthened. Bureau members will brief their regional groups on a regular basis and communicate to the Bureau the feedback they receive from the countries. All Member States will keep their respective countries regularly informed of CFS activities and progress and inform Bureau members of their countries' priorities and concerns to be reported during Bureau and Advisory Group meetings.

25. As outlined in the Reform Document, the Bureau, immediately following its election, will establish an Advisory Group and decide the working modalities, including the frequency and format of the meetings with its Advisory Group. The Bureau will request specific advice on substantive issues and agenda items from its Advisory Group<sup>16</sup>.

26. The Bureau will encourage AG members to strengthen their coordination roles, according to CFS Rules of Procedure<sup>17</sup>, and establish guidance for potential organizations/candidates who are interested in participating in AG and for Bureau's consideration of these requests.

27. The Chairperson has an important political and strategic role to play in Rome and beyond to help achieve CFS vision and objectives and will provide strategic leadership to CFS in Plenary and the intersessional period<sup>18</sup>.

## UPTAKE

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<sup>13</sup> CFS 2009/2 Rev.2, para.20.

<sup>14</sup> CFS 2009/2 Rev.2, para.10.

<sup>15</sup> CFS 2018/45/Inf.16 (communication strategy).

<sup>16</sup> CFS 2009/2 Rev.2, para.32.

<sup>17</sup> CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, Para.2-4.

<sup>18</sup> Section F of the Annex.

*Increasing awareness of CFS and promoting the dissemination, use and application, and follow-up and review of CFS products and recommendations at all levels*

28. Member States have primary responsibility for promoting CFS and the use and application of CFS policy products and recommendations at all levels, working in collaboration with the RBAs, other relevant UN bodies, CSM, PSM, CGIAR, philanthropic and financial institutions and other concerned actors. To increase linkages between CFS and the regional and country levels, Member States are encouraged, at their discretion, to constitute or strengthen, with the active engagement of the RBA headquarters and decentralized networks, where feasible and suitable, multidisciplinary national mechanisms (e.g. food security networks, national alliances, national CFS platforms) and foster their interest and contribution to CFS.<sup>19</sup>

29. The RBAs, other UN bodies and other stakeholders have a role to play in mainstreaming CFS products and recommendations in their own work and facilitating their use and application at all levels. They provide advice and technical support on specific topics, at the request of countries, drawing upon various resources including the work of CFS. Advisory Group members are encouraged to organize events at all levels that can foster the uptake of CFS work. Outcomes of these events, activities and achievements will be shared with all CFS stakeholders and reported to the Bureau on an annual basis.

30. The CFS Chairperson will continue to play an active role in promoting the use and application of CFS products and recommendations. The Chairperson will advocate for the consideration of CFS policy outcomes and collaborate with all relevant stakeholders to find opportunities to raise awareness of the work carried out by the Committee.

31. Communication is the responsibility of all Member States and Participants. Communication refers to two distinct sets of activities: (i) activities aiming at raising awareness of CFS and its work that will be supported by the Secretariat and (ii) activities towards the use and application of CFS products and recommendations at country level for which Member States have primary responsibility. CFS stakeholders will support the dissemination of CFS-endorsed policy products recommendations and are encouraged to continue disseminating HLPE reports, recognizing that they are not CFS-endorsed products.

32. The Secretariat will continue to focus on raising awareness of CFS and its work through the CFS website and social media, ensuring that the results are reported to the required global bodies such as the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and sharing information with other relevant UN bodies. It will support outreach efforts of the CFS Chairperson, subject to available resources, and report to the Bureau.

33. CFS has developed a common understanding of the innovative monitoring mechanism<sup>20</sup> within its role to promote accountability and share best practices at all levels, including through the follow-up and review of both global and country/region specific FSN situations, trends, progress, challenges and sharing lessons; assessing the effectiveness of CFS and voluntarily monitoring the use and application of its policy products and recommendations; and facilitating advice regarding recommended approaches to country/regional review and follow-up of FSN objectives. CFS will continue to hold Global Thematic Events (GTEs) in Plenary every 2 years and to encourage stakeholders to organize national and regional events to support GTEs.

## FUNDING

*Ensuring adequate and sustainable funding for the Plenary and workstreams, HLPE and CSM*

<sup>19</sup> CFS:2009/2 Rev.2, para.24.

<sup>20</sup> See diagram in Section C of the Annex.



34. A robust resource mobilization strategy will help support the Plenary and workstreams, the HLPE and the CSM to support CFS priorities as identified in the MYPoW with clear safeguards, in line with FAO guidelines, to prevent potential conflicts of interest regarding funding. Continued efforts will be made to expand and diversify the financing base, including by reaching out to CFS Member States, private foundations and the private sector, and financial institutions.

35. The structure of the Secretariat will also be reviewed and revised to ensure that the Secretariat can effectively support CFS and to make the most efficient use of staff and available resources. The Bureau should consider the optimal use of existing resources based on budget information provided by the Secretariat inter alia for MYPoW implementation. This information should include details on in-kind and cash contributions from the RBAs as well as from other funding sources. It should also include explanations about the estimated costs of planned activities and expenditures. Depending on future needs and available resources, CFS Member States, as appropriate, may request the Governing Bodies of the RBAs to adjust their contribution to CFS.

### III. ANNEX

Operational modalities in the Annex can be adjusted as necessary by the Bureau, seeking possible inputs from Member States, after consultation with the Advisory Group, based on lessons learned. Any adjustment will be submitted to the Plenary for endorsement.

#### A. CFS Roles and strategic Objectives

I. Clarification of the contribution of the CFS six roles to the CFS vision and modalities of implementation

1. All six roles of CFS<sup>21</sup> are important. They are inter-connected and jointly contribute towards achieving the CFS vision requiring the active involvement of CFS Member States and stakeholders at all levels.

2. In the MYPoW 2020-2023, CFS will focus its resources on performing Role 1 (coordination at global level), Role 2 (policy convergence) and Role 5 (promoting accountability and best practices) in a more demand-driven way and with greater efficiency and effectiveness as well as Role 6 (Global Strategic Framework). Recognizing that CFS is an intergovernmental policy body and not an implementing body<sup>22</sup>. Roles 3 (support and advice to countries and regions) and 4 (coordination at national and regional level) will mainly rely on government initiatives possibly in collaboration with the RBAs, other UN bodies and other stakeholders that have an implementation and coordination role at national and regional levels. CFS will however continue to perform Roles 3 and 4 by facilitating and providing advice on approaches to improving FSN at country/regional levels and promoting the use and application of CFS products, e.g. through compiling and sharing experiences and good practices on leveraging existing FSN multi-stakeholder platforms or establishing them.

3. The contribution of each role to the CFS vision and how it is or should be performed is summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Contribution of CFS roles to CFS vision and modalities of implementation**

Contribution to CFS vision	How the role is/ should be performed
<b>Role 1: Coordination at global level</b>	
- The role, through provision of the foremost international and intergovernmental platform for policy coordination and exchange, is	- Inclusive discussions on experiences in applying FSN policies, FSN trends and critical, urgent and emerging issues in a timely way for policy-makers' attention

<sup>21</sup> CFS 2009/2 Rev.2, para.5 and 6.

<sup>22</sup> Evaluation Report, Conclusion 4, ES30.

<b>Contribution to CFS vision</b>	<b>How the role is/ should be performed</b>
essential for: (i) CFS to serve as the FSN world's leading platform to discuss FSN issues in an inclusive setting; (ii) keeping FSN high on the global agenda, harnessing the convening power of CFS; and (iii) coordination and fostering collaborative action amongst its stakeholders	- Advocacy to keep FSN high on the global agenda
<b>Role 2: Policy convergence</b>	
- The role contributes to promoting policy convergence/coherence among stakeholders (countries, organizations, others) and across sectors at all levels on FSN issues	- Formulation of negotiated global policy products and recommendations through inclusive, evidence- and consensus-based processes - Selection of topics driven by their impact on food insecure and malnourished people and MYPoW criteria
<b>Role 3: Support and advice to countries and regions</b>	
- The role consists of (i) raising awareness of CFS and its work; and (ii) facilitating support and advice to countries and regions at their request	- All Member States and Participants to raise awareness of CFS and its work See Sections E of this annex and Document CFS 2018/45/16 INF (communication strategy) - All Member States and Participants to facilitate support and advice to countries and regions at their request to use and apply CFS products and recommendations - Help countries to contextualize CFS global products and recommendations, considering local situations and on-going related processes at national and regional levels - Review the support and advice on the basis of the challenges met and lessons learned See Sections C and E of this annex and Document CFS 2018/45/16 INF (Communication Strategy)
<b>Role 4: Coordination at national and regional levels</b>	
- The role promotes coordination and alignment of actions at and with national and regional levels, and reinforces the links to realities on the ground.	- Performed In collaboration with RBAs, other UN agencies and regional organizations See Section E of this annex
<b>Role 5 Promotion of accountability and sharing best practices</b>	
- The role promotes Member States and Participants' accountability and sharing best practices, informing CFS of the uptake of its products and recommendations, and constraints for their use and application to be addressed	- Activities included in the CFS framework for promoting accountability and sharing best practices see Section C of this Annex
<b>Role 6: Global Strategic Framework (GSF)</b>	
- The role supports coordination, convergence and coherence, and synchronized action of stakeholders	- Regular updating and dissemination of the GSF, providing guidance through recommendations for FSN strategies, policies and actions

## II. Strategic Objectives for the next MYPoW

4. Three interlinked strategic objectives are proposed to help direct CFS time and resources for the next 4-year (2020-2023) MYPoW activities.

5. Based on the six roles, the strategic objectives will promote the recognition of CFS as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for FSN and keep FSN high on the global development agenda.

6. CFS will support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, focusing primarily on SDG2 and its linkages with other SDGs and targets relevant to FSN, guided by the following three strategic objectives for MYPoW 2020-2023.

- **Strategic Objective 1 - PLATFORM:** Leverage the convening power as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform to discuss the FSN situation and coordinate collective action at all levels

7. CFS will further harness the convening power of its platform through inclusive and evidence-based exchange/discussions on global FSN developments, trends, challenges and critical, urgent and emerging issues, leading to inclusive discussions and fostering coordinated action amongst its stakeholders.

8. **Outcomes:**

- i) CFS stakeholders are aware and understand FSN developments, trends and issues;
- ii) Member States and Participants have strengthened coordination at global level, leading to collaborative action, with expected positive impact at regional and national levels;
- iii) CFS debates and policy guidance are used by Member States and Participants to address the critical, urgent and emerging FSN issues at global, regional and national levels.

- **Strategic Objective 2 - POLICY:** Develop voluntary global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food

9. CFS will develop global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence at all levels, addressing the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition impacting the greatest number of people. CFS will develop global policy guidance through inclusive, evidence and consensus-based processes. CFS will encourage its Member States and Participants that have an implementation role at national and regional levels to assist countries and regions at their request to use and apply CFS products and recommendations.

10. The selection of workstreams will take into account global priorities on FSN (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, follow-up to the ICN2, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, the UN Decade on Family Farming and other relevant initiatives), HLPE Notes on Critical and Emerging Issues, the CFS comparative advantage and potential added value, and complement efforts of UN bodies working on FSN, especially the RBAs.

11. The HLPE will continue to support policy discussions by providing evidence-based information, advice and focused interventions through its thematic reports and other inputs at the request of CFS, subject to resource availability.

12. **Outcome:**

- i) CFS global policy guidance contributes to improved policy convergence and coherence on key FSN issues, including the progressive realization of the right to adequate

food, horizontally (among countries, organizations and stakeholders and across sectors) as well as vertically (from local to global levels and vice versa).

- **Strategic Objective 3 - UPTAKE:** Foster the uptake, follow-up and review, and sharing of experiences and best practices on the use and application of CFS products at all levels

13. CFS will further support the uptake of its policy work, through strengthening awareness, communication and outreach, sharing experiences, challenges and best practices and partnering at all levels, voluntarily monitoring the use and application of policy products and recommendations.

14. CFS will step up its efforts and support stakeholders in raising awareness of CFS and the use and application of its policy products and recommendations through its communication and outreach activities, and better link with the regional and national levels, including leveraging existing FSN multi-stakeholder platforms or encouraging their establishment. It will continue to report to the FAO Conference and the UNGA through ECOSOC, and share information with other UN bodies as appropriate.

15. **Outcomes:**

- i) CFS global policy convergence and coherence work is widely known at all levels;
- ii) Countries and regions use and apply CFS policy convergence and coherence work in regional and national actions.

## **B. New MYPoW structure and process**

### **I. MYPoW Structure**

1. The MYPoW is made up of three sections. The first section is a standing section which includes the CFS vision and its overall objective. The second and third sections include the activities to be carried out. MYPoW includes:

- i) Thematic workstreams

They are associated with outputs 1.1 (inclusive discussions), 2.1 (global policy guidance).

- ii) Supportive activities

They include all activities that are carried out to ensure the functioning of the Committee<sup>23</sup>.

### **A. Standing Section: CFS vision and overall objective**

#### **A.1. CFS Vision:**

2. CFS “constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring FSN for all human beings. CFS strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”<sup>24</sup>.

<sup>23</sup> These include, among others, the organization of the annual Plenary session with associated communication and outreach activities, CFS Chairperson’s activities in support of CFS, preparation of the work programme, and discussions on rules of procedure, as necessary. They also include activities that are associated with outputs 2.2 (Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition – GSF) and 3.1 (conclusions of follow-up and review sessions) and 3.2 (communication and outreach).

<sup>24</sup> CFS:2009/2 Rev.2, para.4.

A.2. CFS overall objective:

3. CFS aims at eliminating hunger and malnutrition through improved policy convergence/coherence at global level, which leads to strengthened actions at national and regional levels.
4. All activities in the MYPoW are designed, planned and implemented to promote: resilience of livelihoods; attention to the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition; a multi-sectoral inclusive and participatory approach; evidence-based decision-making; environmental, economic and social sustainability; gender equality, women's and girls' rights and women's empowerment in the context of FSN.

B. Strategic section for the 4-year MYPoW

5. This section presents CFS thematic workstreams and supportive activities for the quadrennium. For each thematic workstream, the section includes the rationale for inclusion in the MYPoW, objectives, outcomes, contribution to the CFS overall objective and to the MYPoW Strategic Objectives.
6. The workstreams will be selected to support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing primarily on SDG2 and the linkages with other SDGs and targets relevant to FSN, guided by the Strategic Objectives. They aim at delivering the following types of outputs, contributing to achieving the Strategic Objectives:

- **Strategic Objective 1 - PLATFORM:** Leverage the convening power as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform to discuss the FSN situation and coordinate collective action at all levels

Output 1.1: Inclusive discussions

Inclusive discussions on FSN developments, trends and emerging and critical issues can be expressed through conclusions, reports, Chairperson's summaries and other ways.

*e.g. (2017) Conclusions of the CFS Forum on Women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition in Chairperson's summary (CFS 2017/44/7)*

- **Strategic Objective 2 - POLICY:** Develop voluntary global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food

Output 2.1: Global policy guidance

Delivered through the preparation of negotiated policy products (voluntary guidelines, principles or other policy frameworks) and recommendations on strategic topics.

*e.g. (2017) Policy recommendations based on the HLPE Report "Sustainable forestry for FSN"*

Output 2.2: Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)

Delivered through regular updating of the GSF, incorporating CFS policy products and recommendations which are endorsed at the Plenary.

*e.g. (2017) GSF updated to include major new international developments in the area of FSN*

- **Strategic Objective 3 - UPTAKE:** Foster the uptake, follow-up and review, and sharing of experiences and best practices on the use and application of CFS products at all levels

### Output 3.1: Conclusions of follow-up and review sessions

Delivered through the follow-up and review of both global and country/region specific FSN situations, trends, progress, challenges and sharing lessons; assessing the effectiveness of CFS and voluntarily monitoring the use and application of its policy products and recommendations.

*e.g. (2016) outcomes of the VGGT Global Thematic Event held in the Plenary*

### Output 3.2: Communication and outreach

Delivered by raising awareness of CFS and its work through the CFS website and social media, reporting to global bodies such as UN ECOSOC and sharing information with other UN bodies, and supporting outreach activities of the CFS Chairperson subject to available resources.

*e.g. (2016) Post-endorsement awareness raising events, such as the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (FFA) outreach event in Nairobi and (2017) Connecting Smallholders to Markets outreach events in Addis Ababa and Abidjan*

## **C. Rolling Section: activities to be carried out**

7. This section includes, for each selected thematic workstream and supportive activities, the different activities foreseen to achieve the expected objectives and outcomes, working arrangements, a budget estimate, including indications on human resources needed, as well as a tentative timeline.

### II. MYPoW PROCESS

8. This proposal aims to provide a structured, inclusive and efficient process for the prioritization and selection of future CFS thematic workstreams and supportive activities.

9. The CFS Chairperson will facilitate the process, preside over the open meetings, consult with the different stakeholders involved and make sure that all the views and positions are duly taken into account.

10. This process is described in Table 2.

**Table 2: MYPOW Process**

<p><b>Plenary discussion on critical and emerging FSN issues for the CFS MYPoW</b></p>	<p>The process will start with a session in the Plenary dedicated to discussion on critical and emerging issues in the field of FSN to feed subsequent discussions on the preparation of MYPoW proposals. The purpose of the session is to allow CFS stakeholders to share views and come up with potential issues to be addressed by CFS. The HLPE note on Critical and Emerging Issues, and other sources such as RBA reports, will serve as background documents for the discussion. A CFS Chairperson's Summary will reflect the outcomes of the Plenary discussion, highlighting the issues that were most supported. The Chairperson's summary will be circulated and reviewed at the Plenary. This will not prevent CFS stakeholders from considering additional issues and topics in the following process.</p>
<p><b>1st Open Meeting- Presentation of preliminary proposals</b></p>	<p>The first open meeting is organized for the presentation of the preliminary proposals by the proponents and to discuss them based on prioritization criteria. Each proposal needs to be supported by 2 Member States from 2 regions. Supporters can also include Participants. The preliminary proposals will deal with thematic workstreams associated with outputs 1.1 and 2.1. The preliminary proposals will provide the following information: Rationale for including the thematic workstream in the MYPoW, based on how it meets the prioritization criteria;</p>

	<p>Expected results and how they will contribute to the achievements of the Strategic Objectives and FSN-relevant targets of the 2030 agenda;</p> <p>Post-endorsement activities to promote the use and application of the CFS policy product;</p> <p>Budget estimate<sup>25</sup>, human resources and timeline.</p> <p>As part of the MYPOW preparation process, the production of HLPE reports/analyses as an input/background document for CFS discussions will be based on a clear understanding that, through the Plenary and the Bureau, the report aims to support CFS Member States and other stakeholders in designing strategies and programs for addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, how it will feed into the process considering the timescale, and the availability of information on the subject under discussion<sup>26</sup>.</p>
<b>Prioritization</b>	<p>The Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, prepares a list of prioritized thematic workstreams. The prioritization is based on the preliminary proposals, and is carried out taking into account the outcomes of the Plenary discussion.</p> <p>The following criteria will be used to prioritize the thematic workstreams:</p> <p>CFS vision and overall objective: the workstream contributes to the CFS vision and overall objective addressing the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition with a focus on the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition.</p> <p>Strategic Objectives: the workstream contributes to the achievement of one or more Strategic Objectives.</p> <p>CFS added value: the workstream adds value to existing policy work in relevant and cross-sectoral areas building on the comparative advantages of CFS, avoiding duplication and looking for complementarity and synergies.</p> <p>CFS main comparative advantages include:</p> <p>Its uniqueness in the UN system as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for global coordination and policy convergence on FSN;</p> <p>The evidence-base provided through the HLPE;</p> <p>Access to technical expertise from the RBAs and UN bodies dealing with FSN;</p> <p>The legitimacy of its policy outputs due to decision by Member States and inclusive and consensus-based process and, which are aligned to support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <p>Relevance to global priorities: the workstream addresses critical, urgent and emerging FSN issues, such as those identified in HLPE information note, specific SDGs, ICN 2, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and the UN Decade on Family Farming, etc.</p> <p>Commitment of CFS stakeholders: CFS stakeholders are committed to using and applying the policy product resulting from the workstream.</p>
<b>2nd Open meeting</b>	<p>The second open meeting will take place for the Bureau to present its list of prioritized thematic workstreams and to get comments and inputs from CFS stakeholders.</p>
<b>Selection</b>	<p>The Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, takes a decision on thematic workstreams and supportive activities to be included in the MYPoW considering the feedback received during the second open meeting. A feasible and realistic MYPoW will be prepared, taking into account resources, workload, and the resource mobilization potential.</p> <p>The CFS Secretariat will provide an overview of the current resource situation and a projection for the next four years based on the historical financial data.</p> <p>Regarding workload, CFS workstreams will be limited to enhance the quality and inclusiveness of the process.</p>

<sup>25</sup> The CFS Secretariat, at the request of proponents, can provide assistance for budget estimation.

<sup>26</sup> On exceptional basis, the session taking place at CFS 45 in 2018 is expected to take a decision on HLPE 2020 report.

	<p>HLPE activities should be functional to the work of CFS and their selection should be based on a clear understanding of how they are intended to contribute to the objectives of the Committee and feed into its processes.</p> <p>The MYPoW will indicate if an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) is needed. In principle, OEWG(s) can only be established for thematic workstream(s). An OEWG that deals with supportive activities could be established if necessary.</p> <p>For each OEWG, the MYPoW will include objectives, expected outputs and activities with schedule of implementation. The OEWG will cease its work once the mandate assigned by the MYPoW is accomplished.</p> <p>The information included in the MYPoW will inform the preparation of the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the OEWG. The TORs of new OEWGs will be presented to the Bureau for approval, after consultation with the Advisory Group. The TORs will include the following information: i) compilation of the Plenary decisions and MYPoW indications concerning the workstream; ii) OEWG objective; iii) expected outputs according to the outcome; iv) activities with a schedule of implementation including anticipated end point; v) indications concerning the need to establish a technical task team (composition, mandate and tasks).</p>
<p><b>Plenary consideration and endorsement</b></p>	<p>The Plenary, based on the consensus, will consider and endorse the proposed MYPoW. Activities will not start until resources are provided or a clear indication they are in the pipeline.</p> <p>A resource mobilization strategy will be prepared and implemented following the endorsement of the MYPoW by the Plenary.</p> <p>Annual updates of the rolling section of the MYPoW will be prepared by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, and presented to the Plenary for consideration and endorsement. These are intended to reflect the Plenary decisions, consider possible adjustment, and review the implementation of the MYPoW. The updates will be carried out taking into account resource and workload implications.</p>



## C. Promotion of accountability and sharing best practices

### Background

1. The CFS Evaluation recommended that “CFS should develop an overarching framework that spells out its role in various activities that it has grouped together as monitoring. A great deal of confusion has been created by the generic use of the term to cover different but interrelated functions. CFS should align its terminology and approach with that of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”
2. The response to this recommendation was “taking into account previous discussions, decisions and experience gained, review the framework for monitoring in CFS, clarifying the roles of CFS at all levels.”
3. An essential part of the CFS mandate since its inception in 1974 has been to follow up and review global progress and country efforts in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. A wealth of decisions, documented discussions and reports which “take into account lessons learned from previous CFS [...] monitoring attempts<sup>27</sup>” exist and offer important insights to help clarify the roles of CFS in monitoring at all levels.

### Considerations for the proposal

4. Many constraints were identified for a CFS monitoring role, particularly considering the understanding of monitoring as “correspondences between actions and changes in food security and nutrition indicators compared to a baseline situation<sup>28</sup>. Monitoring in this sense requires more time and resources to establish the baseline data against which results obtained from actions and investments can be assessed and causal relationships established<sup>29</sup>. Based on past experiences and the Plenary conclusions, it was difficult for CFS to monitor country progress as country reporting to CFS was not found to be satisfactory<sup>30</sup>. CFS has agreed that a rigid monitoring framework was not desirable and monitoring activities in the context of CFS should focus “firstly on monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations and the effectiveness of CFS, and secondly on recommending monitoring approaches to countries”<sup>31</sup>.
5. The CFS Evaluation further recommended that CFS efforts and activities related to monitoring should be contextualized to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Consideration should now be given for CFS to facilitate support to countries to achieve the internationally agreed targets and indicators related to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, as well as to the follow-up and review architecture as set out in the 2030 Agenda. This should also include the activities developed since 2016 in the context of the Committee’s engagement to support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition.
6. These activities collectively contribute to an essential part of the CFS mandate to review overall progress in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, promote accountability, share best practices, and facilitate country efforts to monitor their progress. It is thus proposed for CFS to progress from the objective of a framework for monitoring to a framework for “promoting accountability and sharing of best practices at all levels” that includes monitoring-related activities.

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<sup>27</sup> CFS Reform document (2009), paragraph 6 (ii).

<sup>28</sup> CFS 36, 2010/3 Mapping Food Security Actions at Country Level.

<sup>29</sup> CFS 36, 2010/3 Mapping Food Security Actions at Country Level, paragraph 7.

<sup>30</sup> CFS 34, 2008/3 Follow-up to the World Food Summit: Report on the Progress in the Implementation of the Plan of Action, Sections IV and V, and CFS. 34 2008/6 Proposals to strengthen the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to meet new challenges, Conclusions.

<sup>31</sup> CFS 40, 2013/40/8 Framework for monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations.

### Proposed CFS framework for promoting accountability and sharing best practices

7. Table 1 provides a framework to clarify Role 5 of CFS as set out in the Reform Document towards “promoting accountability and sharing best practices” which includes monitoring-related activities, in the context of supporting countries to achieve the SDGs and targets and other relevant global frameworks (e.g. ICN2 Framework for Action, WHA declaration etc.). Table 1 encapsulates an overview of existing and interconnected CFS “monitoring-related activities” undertaken by CFS, as well as those undertaken by its stakeholders. The activities at all levels should be consistent with the five principles identified in the GSF<sup>32</sup> that apply to monitoring and accountability systems.

8. This proposed framework represents a mechanism of innovative incremental monitoring approaches that CFS has undertaken, or could undertake in the future to deliver on Role 5 of the Reform document on “promoting accountability and sharing of best practices at all levels”, including:

- **Follow-up and review** of both global and country/region specific FSN situation, trends, progress and challenges and sharing lessons, including discussions on global FSN trends and on country FSN progress (Volunteer National Reviews (VNRs)).
- **Assessing the effectiveness** of CFS and reviewing the use of its policy products. Activities include independent evaluations, opinion surveys, and annual reports tracking CFS decisions.
- **Use and application of CFS outputs** to provide recommendations to countries/regions regarding monitoring their FSN objectives. Activities include offering guidance (Terms of Reference) for voluntary in-depth country assessments, and national/regional events and an annual space at the Plenary to share experiences and best practices on country/regional efforts towards achieving food security and nutrition objectives (GTEs, ad hoc events), etc.

9. The activities in this framework further contribute to improving CFS by:

- Driving the future work of the Committee through understanding progress made so far globally, in countries, and by CFS itself
- Providing direct evidence (from Member States, RBAs, UN bodies and other actors from the field) to support CFS work by assessing progress and reflecting realities on the ground

Fostering ownership of CFS and its products by Member States and Participants through soliciting experiences, lessons learned, case-studies (e.g. GTEs), and among relevant global processes such as the SDGs and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) (e.g. through VNRs).

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<sup>32</sup> Global Strategic Framework, Section 5.5a. Accountability for commitments and results.

**Table 1: Proposed framework for promoting accountability and sharing best practices**

**Key:** **In bold:** **Activities undertaken by the Committee (as a Committee)**  
Underlined: Activities undertaken/ led by individual Member States/ stakeholders of the Committee  
*Italics:* *On-going sessions in CFS*

		FSN Situation & Trends	Assessment of CFS effectiveness	Use and application of CFS Outputs
Innovative monitoring mechanism	GLOBAL	<p><b>Follow-up and Review of the situation and trends in food security and nutrition in the world</b></p> <p>Annual discussion on SOFI report (based on monitoring done by RBAs + WHO + UNICEF)</p> <p>Periodic discussions based on HLPE Note on Critical and Emerging Issues and others</p>	<p><b>Periodic Assessment of CFS effectiveness<sup>1</sup> through:</b></p> <p>Annual tracking of CFS decisions through the Plenary Annual Progress Reports (by CFS Secretariat)</p> <p>Self-assessment or independent evaluation<sup>2</sup> on CFS effectiveness through periodic opinion surveys<sup>3</sup> and other feedback mechanisms</p>	<p><b>Informed by monitoring the voluntary use and application of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations at national, regional and global level:</b></p> <p>Terms of Reference<sup>4</sup> to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events on national, regional and global levels. The outcomes of these events contribute to the biennial Global Thematic Events at CFS Plenaries</p> <p>Biennial Global Thematic Events on CFS main policy products and ad-hoc events/Side Events on other CFS policy recommendations<sup>5</sup></p> <p>Voluntary in-depth country assessments<sup>6</sup> on the use and application of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations</p> <p>Develop new activities (see Moving Forward below)</p>
	COUNTRY or REGION focused	<p><b>Follow-up and Review of country/region FSN progress</b> (in line with 2030 Agenda and other global framework targets and indicators, esp. SDGs, ICN2 and Decade of Action on Nutrition)</p> <p><u>Annual VNRs<sup>7</sup> and others, e.g. nutrition</u></p> <p><u>(based on monitoring done by countries supported by RBAs, UN system, others)</u></p>		

Footnotes to this table:

1 CFS 2014/41/11 Towards a framework for monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations

2 CFS 2017/44/Inf.23 Independent Evaluation of CFS

3 CFS 2015/42/10 Report on the findings of the CFS effectiveness survey

4 CFS 2016/43/7 Terms of Reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events at national, regional and global levels.

5 CFS 2017/44/1 Monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations

6 Country interviews were led in the context of the independent evaluation

7 CFS 2016/43/Inf.22 From Agreement to Action towards Implementing the 2030 Agenda: Learning From the First Volunteer National Reviews & CFS 2017/44/Inf.15 Lessons Learned in Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

## **Moving forward**

10. CFS should continue to build on this framework by improving existing and/or developing new activities, as part of the MYPoW process, to enhance delivery of its role to promote accountability and best practices, subject to CFS priorities and availability of resources.

### Improve existing activities

- More substantive preparation and ownership in the intersessional period of relevant Plenary sessions (e.g. GTEs, VNRs and SOFI)
- Better articulation with the CFS strategic MYPoW and CFS roles and workstreams including reflections on the objectives, takeaways and impact of activities on CFS work
- How to better emphasize and promote FSN issues in the national VNR reports, and the linkages with the contributions of CFS to the HLPF
- Clarify/strengthen the role of the CFS Chairperson and Secretariat to promote CFS and its products (linked to CFS communication and outreach strategy)
- Strengthen the role of CFS in discussions on the follow-up to the SOFI Report

### Develop new activities, such as:

- Recommending approaches to monitoring, in light of country-led and UN-supported SDG monitoring efforts in countries, taking into account the voluntary nature of any monitoring exercise within CFS
- Provide space in the Plenary for UN bodies to present lessons learned on monitoring FSN, for example, the RBAs, FAO and WHO on ICN2 outcomes, the UN Rapporteur on the Right to Food annual report, etc. for discussion by CFS stakeholders
- Encourage the establishment of or leveraging existing national and regional multi-stakeholder platforms on food security and nutrition, with the active engagement of RBA country offices where feasible and suitable, to share lessons in CFS
- Create a repository of existing regional and national multi-stakeholder platforms on food security and nutrition and lessons learned with inputs from CFS Member States and stakeholders.
- Provide a space in the Plenary and intersessional activities for countries to share their experiences, including progress and gaps, regarding FSN issues and policies and their experiences with the use and application of CFS products
- Encourage the organization of regional events with the engagement of all relevant stakeholders to inform a GTE.

## **D. Proposal for making the Plenary more vibrant, attractive and substantive**

1. The Plenary is the central body for decision-taking, debate, coordination, lesson-learning and convergence by all stakeholders at global level<sup>33</sup>. The Bureau will perform tasks delegated by the Plenary including the preparation of documents and proposals such as setting the agenda<sup>34</sup>. The annual Plenary Session has been increasingly well attended, although consistent high level participation at the Ministerial level has not been established. In previous years, at the suggestion of the Bureau and Advisory Group, high level personalities such as Mary Robinson, the former President of Ireland and John Kufuor, former President of Ghana have been invited to participate in the opening session. However, while their presence was appreciated, these sessions tended to be dominated by delegate statements, some of which were lengthy and some not related to the topic being discussed. From this experience it is now recognized that dedicated space for delegate statements should be provided in the timetable and that such space should be separate from the engagement of high level personalities. The proposals below would not be part of the delegate statement sessions.

2. The exact needs of each Plenary are different depending on the number of decisions that are to be taken, their nature and the time available. It is not envisaged that all the suggestions below be implemented in any one year. Rather they can be experimented with to see if they do result in more lively sessions. It must be recognized that not all these sessions can be “lively” as there is Committee work to be done. The suggestions below would not have outcomes forwarded to the Drafting Committee. Any change to the Plenary format might be considered by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, and will be subject to resource availability.

3. The objective is to make the Plenary the most important gathering on food security and nutrition in the world bringing together all relevant constituencies.

### **i) Specific sessions on the uptake of CFS policy guidelines and recommendations**

Although the work of CFS has been endorsed by the Plenary, its uptake is weak. In addition to the GTEs, Ministers could be invited to report on the uptake of CFS policy work in their country.

### **ii) Dynamic “Davos style” Ministerial/High Level Round Tables**

In this context “Davos Style” means a facilitated focused and inclusive discussion on topics or themes of interest to the audience. The Bureau and Advisory Group could identify a topic or theme and Ministers and other high-level stakeholders from different regions could be invited to interact. In order to use the time effectively, participation from the floor could include some delegates who have been identified in advance as having a recognized contribution to make. This would avoid the risk of non-related or lengthy statements. Funding may be required to support Ministerial or high level participation.

### **iii) Interactive Critical and Emerging Issues**

In 2017 at CFS 44 the HLPE presented their Critical and Emerging Issues note to the Plenary for the first time. For years when there is no new HLPE note this session could be expanded to a panel discussion with representatives from countries and the CFS constituencies participating in the discussion. Time permitting, delegates could also be given space to talk about the critical and emerging issues in their country or region. Funding may be required to support participation.

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<sup>33</sup> CFS: 2009/2 Rev.2, para.20.<sup>34</sup> CFS: 2009/2 Rev.2, para 30.

<sup>34</sup> CFS: 2009/2 Rev.2, para 30.

iv) **“TED style” talks and Lectures**

TED talks are usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less) by thought leaders and innovators. According to the topics on the agenda, thought leaders on those topics could be invited to address the Committee. Likewise thought leaders could be invited to give more substantive lectures on specific topics. Funding may be required to support participation.

v) **Side Event “Elevator Pitches”**

Space could be allocated in the timetable for some of the organizers of Side Events to pitch the outcomes of their Side Events to the Plenary. This could be scheduled on the last day of the session when the Side Events have been completed with each Side Event being allocated a maximum five minute slot. Themes, decided each year by the Bureau and Advisory Group, could be used to cluster the contributions or a shortlist of presenters decided in advance by the Chairperson supported by the Secretariat. No extra funding would be required.

vi) **Parallel discussions on the same theme**

A method used by some multistakeholder partnerships is to organize smaller parallel sessions on the same theme. The various constituencies are divided across the sessions which helps to give space for more interactive and focused discussions in smaller groups, resulting in less positioning and more convergence. Each group would then bring back the results of their discussions to the Plenary. No extra funding would be required.

vii) **Linking to the Voluntary National Review Process**

The connection between CFS and the VNRs in New York should be strengthened. The Plenary items could help solidify this connection as well as the organization of Special Events

## **E. Proposal for actions that could be taken by Member States**

1. CFS is an intergovernmental Committee in FAO, and it is the CFS Member States who ultimately bear the duty of ensuring that the Committee delivers on its mandate.

2. A number of actions have been identified to better promote the dissemination, use and application of CFS products and recommendations.

a) As a first step to better connect CFS with regional and national FSN multistakeholder platforms, Member States and other relevant stakeholders can contribute to the creation of a CFS repository that would include a list of such platforms, functions and actors involved; as well as names of CFS focal points at country-level in ministries, platforms, institutions and agencies. This would contribute to promoting the interaction between CFS to relevant actors at regional and country levels, to the dissemination and use and application of CFS policy outcomes, with the active engagement of the RBA country offices, when feasible and suitable, but also to the development of CFS policy convergence processes through the provision of technical inputs from a wide range of relevant actors. Indications should be provided on the type of support required from the national focal points to guide their nomination.

- b) Bureau and Advisory Group members could also ensure that information is shared, as needed, on relevant CFS processes (for example: call for inputs for VNRs; nutrition lesson-sharing sessions; GTEs; etc.) and promote stronger linkages
- i) Bureau and Advisory Group members could provide regular updates on ongoing initiatives and/or future events which are relevant to the work of CFS taking place in their regions or within their constituencies. B
  - ii) Bureau and Advisory Group members could ensure that relevant CFS endorsed products are presented and considered in policy discussions (for instance: UN Economic Commissions; Regional fora for Sustainable Development; Commission on the Status of Women; Commission for Social Development, etc).
  - iii) Bureau and Advisory Group members could also ensure that information is shared, as needed, on relevant CFS processes (for example: call for inputs for VNRs; nutrition lesson-sharing sessions; GTEs; etc.) and promote stronger linkages
- c) Member States are invited to make voluntary commitments and draft concrete plans on the use and application of CFS products, and present the results of their efforts at the Plenary.
- d) Member States are invited to make specific requests, through the appropriate channels, to consider including CFS as an agenda item in the Governing Body meetings of the RBAs, in order to enhance their engagement in the dissemination and promotion of the use and application of CFS products.
- e) At the request of countries, and where specific resources are made available, the RBAs can contribute to: (i) facilitate the use and application of CFS global policy convergence/coherence guidance in countries, including through work programmes and partnership agreements with countries and stakeholders and (ii) support the development of communication and outreach materials.
- f) Based on available resources and in response to specific requests from institutions and platforms at national and regional levels, CFS endorsed global policy guidance can be elaborated and tailored to the needs of different audiences (e.g. toolkits, checklists, briefs, key messages, tools).

## **F. Description of the role of the CFS Chairperson**

- a) Play a key political and strategic role in a neutral and independent manner in support of CFS activities towards the achievement of its vision and objectives, dealing with all the relevant actors involved in the process, facilitating discussions on relevant issues, in consultation and in agreement with the Bureau;
- b) Represent CFS and promote its inclusive model and agreed outcomes in appropriate political fora, including the governing bodies of the Rome-based Agencies, contributing to keep food security and nutrition high in the global political agenda;
- c) Advocate for the consideration of CFS policy outcomes by decision and policy-makers and collaborate with Member Countries, RBAs and other relevant stakeholders to find opportunities to raise awareness and disseminate the outcomes of the work carried out by the Committee, including in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;

- d) Support outreach activities, taking into account available resources and the guiding principle that raising awareness about CFS and its products is the responsibility of all CFS Members and Participants, supported by the communication function in the CFS Secretariat;
- e) Play a leadership role in intersessional work in an independent way towards facilitating dialogue and reaching consensus among CFS stakeholders, and perform the tasks established by the CFS plenary;
- f) Preside over Plenary, the Bureau, the joint meetings with the Advisory Group, and other relevant meetings of the Committee;
- g) Supported by the CFS Secretariat and in consultation with the Bureau, follow the technical work carried out by the CFS Secretariat, for the successful implementation of the activities agreed upon in the MYPoW;
- h) Report to the Plenary and the Bureau on the implementation of the decisions taken by the CFS Plenary and Bureau;
- i) Meet with the principals of the three Rome-based Agencies to provide updates on the work of the Committee;
- j) Actively engage in finding ways to expand the CFS funding base from membership of all regional groups and other stakeholders, mainly through advocacy and raising political support, in light of the development and implementation of the resource mobilization strategy for the Committee.
- k) Provide inputs on the Secretary's performance to the RBAs for their joint assessment.

### **G. ToRs of CFS Secretary**

TORs, Secretary, Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

Grade: D-1

Duration: Fixed Term: 2 years (renewable for an additional maximum period of 2 years)

Duty Station Location: Rome, Italy

Summary of Duties and Functions:

The Committee on World Food Security constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings.

The Secretary of the CFS will lead the work of the CFS Secretariat, which is jointly supported by the Rome-Based Agencies, in support of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies and working groups towards the preparation and conduct of the Plenary.

Under the overall guidance of the CFS Chair, based on the Bureau's deliberations and decisions, in collaboration with the Rome-Based Agencies and under the administrative supervision of the responsible FAO manager, the incumbent will:

- Manage and supervise the CFS Secretariat;
- Exercise overall supervision of the CFS Secretariat's support to the High Level Panel of Experts;
- Manage, monitor, report on and be accountable for the CFS budget;
- Lead and supervise the design and implementation of the CFS Resource Mobilization Strategy and funding for the activities of CFS;



- Lead the updates to and implementation of the CFS Communication Strategy as well as the development of mechanism for systematic communication among CFS stakeholders and the dissemination of CFS publications;
- Ensure technical, administrative and logistical support to the CFS Chair and the Chairs of the different working groups and technical task teams;
- Supervise and provide technical inputs in the preparation of CFS publications, working documents and meetings;
- Engage in global policy dialogues beyond the CFS meetings to promote the CFS platform in the context of delivery on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Engage with RBA focal points to ensure that CFS outcomes are appropriately disseminated across the RBA constituencies, including at country level to improve FSN outcomes;
- Report to the CFS Chair, and upon request, to the Bureau, on the implementation of the decisions taken by the CFS Plenary and Bureau.

As CFS is hosted in FAO, the Secretary is subject to FAO Rules and Regulations. Her/his performance is assessed jointly by the RBAs, with inputs from the CFS Chair.

#### General Requirements

Advanced university degree, preferably in disciplines that are relevant to food security and nutrition;

A minimum of 15 years of progressively responsible experience relevant to food security, nutrition and sustainable development;

Management and technical leadership of a high order with demonstrated professional competence and mastery of subject matter and extensive relevant professional experience on food security and nutrition-related issues and policies;

Extensive and relevant professional experience related to the functioning of multilateral and multi-stakeholder processes;

Ability to cooperate effectively with people of different national and cultural backgrounds in an international setting;

Experience in resource mobilization, partnerships building including at the highest level of government, is highly desirable;

Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese or Russian.

#### Leadership Competencies

Results focus: Takes accountability for the delivery of agreed results. Leading, engaging and empowering others: Coordinates, directs, facilitates and recognizes team efforts; creates an enabling environment and assists others to realize and develop their potential - Communication: Encourages and contributes to clear and open communication - Partnering and Advocating: Promotes ideas and develops partnerships to advance the Organization's work - Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement: Continually seeks to improve the knowledge, skills and work processes of oneself and others - Strategic thinking: Makes informed and coherent decisions aligned with broader goals and strategies.

Please note that all candidates should adhere to UN values of Commitment, Respect for all and Integrity and Transparency.

## **H. Composition and processes of the Advisory Group**

1. Each Bureau has the prerogative to establish the process of interaction with the Advisory Group (AG) and a high degree of autonomy in deciding the size of the AG and the distribution of seats among the five categories of the AG, within the limits set by the Plenary (currently maximum 14 seats).
2. Regarding the process of interaction with the AG, Bureaus could consider the following elements:
  - i. Developing clear requests to the AG, as needed, to provide more substantive input, (while also keeping in mind the role of the HLPE and OEWGs);
  - ii. Clarifying the support it needs from its AG, encouraging the provision of relevant expertise in alignment with the CFS MYPoW, keeping in mind AG members actively participate in the OEWGs where they provide substantive inputs;
  - iii. Informing the AG sufficiently in advance of meetings regarding specific inputs that are requested from them;
  - iv. Establishing the calendar and schedule of meetings – with due attention to the RBAs shared calendar;
  - v. Developing more strategic agendas of meetings to make better use of the AG, recognizing the Bureau's decision-making role, and take into account the workload;
  - vi. Ensuring remote participation of AG members through audio or video conferencing facilities.
3. Regarding the composition of the AG, the current maximum of 14 seats was generally considered adequate, taking into account the provision for ad hoc participation. Therefore, consideration should be given to making the best use of existing provisions to enhance participation and inclusiveness:
  - a) Encouraging AG members to strengthen their coordination roles within their constituencies to enhance the two-way flow of information and viewpoints. This would keep the AG small and effective while including as many sources of knowledge and advice as possible. It would also include a revision of the AG reporting exercise to attach more importance to coordination activities of members in general and more visibility to the work of the AG and their outreach and coordination activities within their constituencies. AG members should consider successful coordination experiences, e.g. research organizations which could lead to the formation of other mechanisms, building on the experience of the CSM and PSM, to ensure more inclusiveness. (The Bureau will encourage this process).
  - b) Establishing guidance for potential candidates/organizations who are interested in participating in the AG and for Bureau's consideration of these requests.