

## COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE FOR COORDINATED POLICY RESPONSES TO EMERGING GLOBAL FOOD CRISES TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

### 1. Background and Overview

Under the strategic Platform function of the CFS, the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) includes an ongoing workstream on ‘Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation’. The rationale, as per the MYPoW, recognizes that while gains have been made in reducing food insecurity and malnutrition, food insecurity is still driven by “climate change, conflicts, poverty and inequalities, and socioeconomic shocks, including the still-lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Addressing these shocks requires enhanced coherence among different international initiatives and must include finding short- and medium-term solutions to crises that go hand in hand with long term and sustainable transformation of food systems. In particular, the CFS has a key role to play in strengthening coordinated global policy responses between relevant stakeholders to the multiple dimensions of food crises. It deliberates within a human rights framework, focusing on the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, with the support of a dedicated High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN). As such it is the most appropriate space for examining emerging food crises in a globally coordinated manner.

The workstream draws on the convening power of the CFS and envisions regular biannual meetings on selected priority topics for food security and nutrition. The meetings are to discuss the evolving situation, share experiences, data and information, and discuss key issues towards enhanced policy coordination and collaborative governance. The outcomes of such biannual meetings will be captured in a summary report presented to the CFS Plenary debate on the item “State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World – Strengthening Coordination and Collaborative Actions”. The workstream on collaborative governance is informed by a Technical Task Team (TTT), comprised of relevant experts from across CFS stakeholder groups and nominated by CFS Advisory Group members.

## 2. Proposed Topics

In November 2024, the TTT identified and presented to the Bureau a list of potential, high priority, emerging topics for consideration and discussion. From this list (*italicized in the below list*), two topics were chosen for the biennial collaborative governance discussions in the 2024-2025 intersessional period. The remaining elements constitute the shortlist of topics which may be considered for discussion in the 2025-2026 intersessional period.

- a) *Conflict, peacebuilding and the right to adequate food (discussed in July 2025)*
- b) Information and data for crisis response and management
- c) Inflation and high cost of living
- d) Biodiversity loss
- e) Climate change
- f) *Sustainable financing for food security and nutrition (discussed in October 2025)*
- g) Global trade systems
- h) Water governance
- i) Rising inequalities
- j) Unilateral coercive measures
- k) Diversification of diets and cropping patterns
- l) Collaboration at the sub-national level

## 3. Selection Process of topics for discussion in next intersessional period

The decision process for the selection of topics for discussion in the 2025-2026 intersessional period is at the discretion of the Bureau. The Bureau may elect to decide, amongst its members, on the topics for discussion under this workstream. Alternatively, as was the case in 2024, the Bureau may elect to delegate to the TTT the selection of topics for review and approval by the Bureau.

As identified by the TTT in 2024, and approved by the Bureau, the criteria for consideration in selection of the topics are:

- The extent to which the topics address the structural causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.
- The potential for linking the CFS to other relevant international and UN institutions, fora and initiatives, including the timing and location of other events.
- The extent to which the topics are relevant for the most affected countries and constituencies.

#### 4. Provisional Workplan

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME
<b>Decision</b> by Bureau on selection process for the topics for discussion.	8 December 2025
<b>Selection</b> of the topics for discussion, either by the Bureau or the TTT.	December 2025 / early January 2026
The <b>2025 Workplan</b> for the biannual meetings under the Collaborative Governance workstream, approved by the CFS Bureau, in consultation with its Advisory Group	January 2026
<b>Update and discussion</b> at Bureau and Advisory Group meeting to present the agenda and speakers for the first Collaborative Governance Dialogue	February-March 2026
<b>First Collaborative Governance Dialogue</b> on the selected topic to take place.	April 2026 (TBD)
<b>Update and discussion</b> at Bureau and Advisory Group meeting to present the agenda and speakers for the second Collaborative Governance Dialogue	May-June 2026
<b>Second Collaborative Governance Dialogue</b> on the selected topic to take place.	July (TBD)
<b>Presentation</b> of the Chair’s summary report on Collaborative Governance at CFS 53 during the session on Item II	October 2025