



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fifty-second Session
***"50 Years of CFS:
Acting Together for a world free from hunger and malnutrition"***

Rome, Italy, 21-25 October 2024

INFORMATION NOTE ON ONGOING INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

The following note aims at informing deliberations under CFS 52 agenda item II “*Strengthening coordinated policy responses to the food crisis – the State of Food Security and Nutrition on the World 2024*” by presenting a summary overview on ongoing international initiatives against hunger and poverty and their linkages to CFS (item II.d).

Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty

The Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty is an initiative led by Brazil in the context of its 2024 G20 Presidency. The Alliance aims to:

“a) provide sustained political drive at the highest level by the Group of 20 and other Global Alliance Members, galvanizing collective action and building upon synergies with other existing efforts to eliminate hunger and poverty across the world; and

b) facilitate mobilization and improved alignment of domestic and international support, including public and private financial resources and knowledge, to enable large-scale country-owned and country-led implementation of evidence-based programs and policy instruments, especially by countries most affected by hunger and extreme poverty and focusing on persons in vulnerable situations and those most likely to be left behind. The Global Alliance is designed to leverage existing mechanisms and initiatives while avoiding duplication”¹.

¹ G20 Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty. Inception Document. Paragraph 10.

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

The [inception document](#), endorsed by G20 Ministers in July 2024, includes a section on global mobilization and synergies with existing initiatives and fora “*reaffirming the central role of the United Nations and its specialized Agencies and Programs, including the Rome-Based Agencies, in promoting the policy debate and convergence*”², taking note of “*the key role of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as an inclusive intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all. Through the inception document, G20 Ministers “look forward to the national implementation of programs and policy instruments through the support of the Global Alliance as an additional avenue to implement actions recommended under the CFS voluntary guidelines, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, and other guidelines and policy products from CFS and other related international initiatives and fora*”³. In this context, the key role of the CFS policy instruments as a source and a point of reference for the development of the Policy Basket that is being established to support the implementation of national policies to fight hunger and malnutrition in all its forms was highlighted.

In addition to recognizing the CFS policy convergence role, the CFS Chairperson is included as a Member of the initial composition of the Board of Champions which will support and guide the Global Alliance.

A two-way liaison function between the Board of Champions and CFS is also envisaged: the Board of Champions provides reports and suggestions to the CFS and, in turn, receives guidance and inputs from CFS.

2024 Global Forum for Food and Agriculture

GFFA is an annual high-level event in Berlin organized by the German Federal Government and addressing agricultural policy matters of global relevance. At the 2024 Global Forum on Food and Agriculture (GFFA), around 2,000 international participants discussed the food systems of the future and how to collaborate more closely to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and to implement the human right to food.

61 Ministers and 12 high-level representatives of International Organizations took part in the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture. The [Final Communiqué](#) underscored the need to continue the necessary transformation towards sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems and emphasized that this was the only way to make the right to adequate food a reality for everyone across the globe. It commends the CFS policy products, supports their implementation, and it emphasizes the global policy coordination role and multi-stakeholder platform function for substantive debate on food security and nutrition topics.

2024 Policies against Hunger Conference: Twenty Years of Action: Advancing the Human Right to Food

The “Policy against Hunger” conferences have been organized by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) since 2001. They aim to bring together representatives from politics and administration, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and science to exchange ideas internationally on rights-based approaches to transforming food systems and to discuss how food systems can be made more sustainable, resilient and fair.

A special edition of the “Policies against Hunger” conference took place in Berlin in June 2024 on the twentieth anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Right to Adequate Food to take stock of the realization of the human right to adequate food and the challenges that still lie ahead.

The Conclusions of the [Conference Report](#) point to “*the need for stronger interconnections between various international processes and bodies working on food security and human rights*” and to “*the pivotal role [that] the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) plays in this regard and on the overall importance of international cooperation and coordination, interlinking international processes, and cooperating with affected groups*”.

² G20 Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty. Inception Document. Paragraph 30.

³ Ibidem.

Furthermore, the Conference recommended that *“the CFS in its role as global policy coordination platform should therefore deepen its links with other UN fora on issues of high relevance for food security. These include addressing the planetary environmental crises, especially climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental pollution, maintaining healthy soils, and stopping desertification”.*”

G7

The goal of the first G7 Foreign Affairs Ministers’ meeting, hosted by Italy as part of its 2024 presidency, was to strengthen the role of the G7 as the main forum for dialogue among leading liberal democracies and as a driver of stability to face major global crises.

The Meeting [Communiqué titled “Addressing Global Challenges, Fostering Partnerships”](#) includes a section on “Food Security and Nutrition Security” through which the G7 *“reaffirms its commitment to work with the Rome-based agencies FAO, IFAD and WFP. We recognize the role of the Committee on World Food Security as an inclusive and multi-stakeholder platform to work together on food security and nutrition.”*

A second G7 Foreign Affairs Ministers’ meeting is scheduled for November 2024.

Nutrition for Growth Summit – Paris 2025

The world is still not on track to achieve any global nutrition targets by 2030, and child malnutrition persists at an alarming rate. The upcoming Nutrition for Growth Summit (Paris, 2025) represents an opportunity for countries and other partners to make bold commitments to place nutrition at the core of the sustainable development agenda.

In this context, the Committee, as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all, can play a key role. Its Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, the only global policy instrument negotiated at a multilateral level, recognize the strong interlinkages between sustainable food systems and healthy diets. They emphasize the importance of implementing interventions within and across food systems and their constituent elements—food supply chains, food environments, and consumer behavior—to improve their ability to deliver healthy diets and generate positive outcomes across the three dimensions of sustainable development.

The CFS Chair is a member of an International Advisory Group (IAG) that has been set up to support the preparation of the summit. The IAG will contribute to providing analysis and policy proposals on different thematic areas related to nutrition. Under the IAG, six working groups will thus be working on different thematic areas, each providing an overview of the nutrition situation through their thematic lens and making strategic recommendations. The CFS Chair has accepted an invitation to co-moderate the thematic working group on “Nutrition and crisis resilience” together with WFP.