



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Forty-first Session

"Making a difference in food security and nutrition"

Rome, Italy, 13-18 October 2014

PROGRESS REPORT ON CFS MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES (MYPow)

Matters to be brought to the attention of the Committee:

The Committee:

- 1) Expresses its appreciation for the work of the Open-Ended Working Group on CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work and Priorities (MYPow OEWG);
- 2) Expresses its appreciation to the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) for its note "Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition";
- 3) Recommends that the MYPow OEWG continues its work with a view to presenting a proposal on the CFS activities to be carried out in the biennium 2016-2017 for endorsement by the CFS Plenary in 2015;
- 4) Request the HLPE to undertake the following study/ies to be presented to CFS Plenary in 2016.

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I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 40th Plenary Session in October 2013, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) adopted a Multi-Year Programme of Work – the MYPoW - for the biennium 2014-2015¹, that describes the different CFS workstreams and expected outcomes, including major and other workstreams, as well as topics for the reports of the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE).
2. The purpose of the MYPoW is to help improve CFS efficiency through better preparation, prioritization, organization and implementation of its work programme, including the identification of funding gaps.
3. The preparation of the MYPoW therefore follows a structured and inclusive process for the selection and prioritization of future CFS activities.
4. In line with the decision taken at CFS 40, the prioritization process is grounded on the mandate of CFS, the contribution of the activities to its overall objective, the consideration of its value added, avoiding duplication of work and taking into account resource availability.
5. The prioritization process should result, at the end of the current biennium at CFS 42 in October 2015, in decisions regarding CFS activities on the following:
 - a) Major workstreams, characterized by a broad-based and extensive consultation process on strategic topics that are recognized of major importance for food security and nutrition and lead to the finalization and endorsement of CFS key products following a process of negotiations as appropriate;
 - b) Other types of workstreams to be carried out by CFS;
 - c) Theme(s) for HLPE report(s), which can serve as a basis for a subsequent CFS workstream or a policy round table.
6. In taking a decision in October 2015 on the CFS Programme of Work for 2016-2017, the Committee might consider that the outcomes of the workstreams may be achieved beyond 2017 and planning the work for these expected outputs. It might also consider to retain a certain degree of flexibility, as appropriate, to accommodate emerging issues during the period.

II. THE PROCESS

7. The process decided at CFS 40 has been adapted to take into consideration funding and time constraints. It included a multi-stakeholder dialogue held in Bucharest on 31 March 2014 in the eve of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe and a discussion during the update on CFS held at the FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean on 6 May 2014.
8. An electronic consultation, hosted by the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Forum² between 23 April and 20 May 2014, enabled to collect proposals from a great variety of stakeholders in the area of food security and nutrition at global, regional and national levels.
9. The participants to the online discussion were asked to respond to the following guiding questions:
 - a) What issues should be addressed by the Committee in the biennium 2016-2017?
 - b) Explain the issue and describe why you are proposing it;

¹ CFS 2013/40/9 Rev.1

² <http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/>

- c) What kind of activity do you propose to address this issue? Which kind of CFS workstream should be put in place to address it?
 - i) A major workstream
 - ii) Another type of workstream
 - iii) An HLPE report

10. A list of 125 proposed topics was compiled from 57 contributions received. This list has been discussed on 30 June 2014 at a MYPoW OEWG meeting. Further inputs and suggestions were submitted by the OEWG members between 1 and 23 July 2014. As a result, a consolidated list has been prepared and is presented in Section 3 of this document while section 4 proposes a list of potential themes for future HLPE reports.

11. As decided at CFS 40, the HLPE has produced a note on “Critical and Emerging Issues in the area of Food Security and Nutrition”³. The OEWG stressed the importance of this note as a key element that will feed into the MYPoW discussion.

12. After CFS 41, the OEWG work will focus on the analyses of the proposals and their prioritization, involving FAO Regional Groups (through their representatives in the CFS Bureau) and CFS Advisory Group constituencies in a series of consultations. One or two OEWG meetings will be organized with a view to finalize a proposal to be presented for final decision by CFS Plenary in October 2015.

13. Furthermore, the OEWG reiterated that the Committee this year will be asked to take a decision on the number and the theme(s) of the report(s) to be presented by the HLPE in 2016, as this workstream needs to start in 2015 and it was not included in the MYPoW 2014-2015.

III. PROPOSALS FOR CFS ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017

14. The issues and activities listed below that result from the inclusive consultation process held between March and June 2014 were grouped in the following eight main themes:

- 1) Agricultural and food chain development and its links to food security
 - a) Agricultural development and its role in food security and nutrition and in development and economic growth (Major Workstream).
 - b) Agricultural productivity for food security and nutrition (Other Workstream, Roundtable).
 - c) Evolution of the agri-food sector and its impact on food security and nutrition (Workstream, to be defined).
 - d) Technological innovations and approaches to increase agri-food chain productivity for food security and nutrition (Workstream, to be defined).
 - e) Access to services for rural populations, such as finance and Climate Information Service Application Models (Workstream, to be defined).
 - f) Solutions and best practices to reduce post-harvest losses and food waste; Guidelines for countries on the correct measures to take and tools to use for greatest impact (Other Workstream, Roundtable and/or Guidelines).
 - g) Regional and sub-regional agricultural strategies and integration mechanisms for food security and family farming (Other workstream).
- 2) The means and ways of agriculture such as:
 - a) Agroecological approach (Workstream, to be defined).
 - b) Seeds and agricultural biodiversity (Workstream, to be defined).
 - c) Role of innovation and investment in the development of agriculture and food systems (Workstream, to be defined).

³ CFS 2014/41/9

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- d) Agricultural models to address the double challenge of food security and climate change (Major Workstream).
- 3) Livestock:
 - a) Role and impact of animal diseases in food security and nutrition (Other Workstream).
 - b) The role of livestock in food security (Workstream, to be defined).
 - 4) Nutrition:
 - a) Role and importance of a diverse diet to support human health and development including pregnancy, early childhood and adolescence (school feeding) (Workstream, to be defined).
 - b) Linkages among food security, nutrition, water, health and food safety challenges (Other Workstream, Roundtable).
 - c) Food fortification as a public policy for nutrition security (Workstream, to be defined).
 - d) Reasons and consequences of hidden hunger (Other Workstream, Roundtable);
 - e) Public policies on nutrition: integration of intersectoral policies on nutrition (including school feeding) especially for children and for the first 1000 days (Workstream, to be defined).
 - 5) Forestry:
 - a) Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition (Workstream, to be defined).
 - 6) Gender:
 - a) Women's empowerment and closing gender gaps in agriculture, achieving food and nutrition security and realizing the right to food for women (Workstream, to be defined).
 - 7) Governance:
 - a) Develop a framework for implementing the Post-2015 Agenda on issues related to sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition (Major Workstream).
 - b) Address gender gaps and marginalization of women from policy making processes (Workstream, to be defined).
 - c) Initiative on participatory mechanisms in countries, taking into account existing FAO support to country and regional International Year of Family Farming (IYFF) committees and other multi-stakeholder platforms (Other Workstream, Monitoring OEWG).
 - d) Review of right-based monitoring systems of food security and nutrition (Following the HLPE Report, Other Workstream, Monitoring OEWG).
 - e) Promote innovative collaborations (private-civil society) in supporting national hunger and malnutrition alliances through technical and financial partnerships (Workstream, to be defined).
 - f) Role of local and urban authorities for food security and nutrition (Workstream, to be defined).
 - 8) Crises, emergencies and humanitarian assistance:
 - a) Re-thinking the role of social protection and safety nets in sudden onset emergencies (Workstream, to be defined).
 - b) Trends in humanitarian assistance for food security and nutrition (Workstream, to be defined).
15. As per the Guidance Note approved in 2013, a final proposal will be presented for endorsement by the CFS Plenary in October 2015.

IV. PROPOSALS FOR THE HLPE REPORT(S) IN 2016

16. Following the MYPoW OEWG meeting held on 30 June 2014, it was decided to differentiate the topics that were proposed as CFS workstreams for the next biennium from those that were suggested as possible HLPE Reports.

17. The list below was so created to facilitate the discussion on the topic(s) to be chosen for the HLPE Report(s) in 2016. The topics were grouped in eleven main themes as follows.

- 1) Agricultural and food chain development and its links to food security:
 - a) Agricultural development and food security and nutrition.
 - b) Sustainable agricultural productivity growth for food security.
 - c) Regional and sub-regional agricultural strategies and integration mechanisms for food security and family farming.
 - d) The diversity of agrarian structures, family farming, rural transformations and knowledge gaps for policy making for food security.
- 2) The means and ways of agriculture such as:
 - a) Food security and nutrition through agro-ecological approaches.
 - b) Seeds and agricultural biodiversity for food security.
 - c) Innovation and investment in the development of agriculture and food systems for food security.
- 3) Livestock:
 - a) Roles, importance and impacts of livestock development for food security.
 - b) Animal welfare and food security.
- 4) Nutrition:
 - a) Linkages among food security, nutrition, water, health and food safety challenges.
 - b) Diet diversification for human health and development including pregnancy, early childhood and adolescents.
 - c) Food fortification as public policy for nutrition security.
 - d) Impact of changing diets in global supply and demand and food security and nutrition: what role for public policies?
- 5) Forestry:
 - a) Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition.
- 6) Gender:
 - a) Women and gender relations in food systems for food security and nutrition.
 - b) Closing gender gaps and women's empowerment in agriculture for food security and the right to food for women.
- 7) Employment:
 - a) The challenge of employment of rural populations for food and nutrition security.
- 8) Energy:
 - a) Fossil energy, crude oil and food security.
- 9) Governance:
 - a) Multi-stakeholder, broad-based, participatory platforms for food security and family farming.
 - b) Address gender gaps and marginalization of women in policy making processes.

- c) Review of monitoring systems of food security and nutrition, including the role of technology.
- 10) Crises, emergencies and humanitarian assistance:
- a) Public policies and tools to improve resilience to shock and crises, including food reserves.
- 11) Urban food security
- a) Urban food security, the way forward: methods and tools, targeting, delivery mechanisms.
18. CFS will be invited to decide on the topic(s) of the HLPE Report(s) for 2016. Those topics that have not been selected will be retained for discussion by the OEWG for their possible inclusion in the MYPOW 2016-2017.