

COMMITTEE on WORLD FOOD SECURITY
37th Session, 17-22 October 2011

Item V: Policy Round Tables
Provisional guidelines for delegates

1. Objective

One of the key roles of CFS is to promote greater convergence and coordination of policies on key issues that affect food security and nutrition. The objective of this session is to highlight some of those key issues with a view to arriving at recommendations which promote coherence among the policies of various stakeholders. The recommendations from the round table discussions will be submitted to Plenary for approval. Panellists will represent a range of stakeholders: governments, international organizations, grassroots and civil society organisations as well as the private sector. The key outcomes expected from the session are:

- The identification of policies that address food security and nutrition challenges;
- Ways to promote policy convergence, coherence and joint action;
- Guidance to relevant institutions on how to play a facilitating role;
- Global, regional and national implications.

2. Discussion topics

There will be three topics focusing on food security policy issues two of which will be discussed in parallel:

- How to Increase Food Security and Smallholder-Sensitive Investment in Agriculture (Parallel)
- Gender, Food Security and Nutrition (Parallel)
- Food Price Volatility

A concept note will be prepared as a background for each topic outlining:

- a) The main challenges
- b) Key issues
- c) Policy implications and recommendations
- d) Matters for the attention of and expected guidance from the Committee.

3. Format

A round table format will be used to facilitate discussions on each topic. There will be a Chair and a Rapporteur. The Chair will open panel discussions, invite the panellists to make their presentations and will summarise the major points and recommendations coming from the session. Key findings and recommendations from each policy round table will be presented by a Rapporteur in Plenary. The discussions will be divided into two parts:

- The first part will include presentations from the panellists who will present their perspectives on the topic, striving as much as possible to speak also to the analysis and recommendations laid out in the concept note for their round table.
- The second part will include an open floor discussion with a view to formulate actionable recommendations for approval.