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**COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY**

**Thirty-seventh Session**

**Rome, 17-22 October 2011**

**Item VI**

**GLOBAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK – AGREEMENT ON  
PURPOSES, BASIC PRINCIPLES, STRUCTURE AND PROCESS**

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1. As indicated in document CFS:2011/8, this document was prepared by a CFS Bureau Open Ended Working Group and was approved by the CFS Bureau on 31 March 2011. The document is non-binding for the preparation of a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition which will take place after CFS37. It is provided here for information.

## **I. CONTEXT, PREVIOUS DECISIONS AND PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

2. The Reform Document on the GSF (p. 6, iii): “Develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition in order to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders. The Global Strategic Framework will be flexible so that it can be adjusted as priorities change. It will build upon existing frameworks such as the UN’s Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security.”

3. The 36th Session of the CFS Plenary’s decision on the GSF: “The Committee agreed to launch a consultative and inclusive process to be conducted by the CFS Bureau with the assistance of the Joint Secretariat and in close collaboration with the Advisory Group and involvement of all stakeholders, with the aim to develop the first version of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) by October 2012, which will be subject to regular updates reflecting the outcomes and recommendations of the CFS. The first step of this inclusive consultation process will be to find agreement on GSF purposes, basic principles and structure, taking into account existing frameworks. During the process, the HLPE may provide input on priority issues identified by the CFS.”

4. In order to carry out the decision of the CFS, the CFS Bureau established a working group on the GSF. The working group, coordinated by Brazil, after carrying out open and inclusive consultations by means of an electronic survey and discussion meetings, has reached agreement on the proposal below, which was endorsed by the CFS Bureau on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The present document concludes the first step required by the CFS Plenary and provides the basic frame for the steps to follow until the development of the first version of the GSF by October 2012.

## **II. NATURE, PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE GSF**

5. The Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) will be a single, living document to be approved by the CFS Plenary. After the initial drafting and approval process, the GSF may be updated by the CFS Plenary as a result of regular CFS processes and policy debate.

6. The overall purpose of the GSF is to provide a dynamic instrument to enhance the role of the CFS and promote its vision as a platform to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders in support of global, regional and country-led actions to prevent future food crises, eliminate hunger and ensure food security and nutrition for all human beings.

7. Neither approval nor endorsement of the GSF by countries and other stakeholders will be legally binding; they will rather constitute an acknowledgement that the document is a sound framework to improve convergence and synchronized action in food security and nutrition governance and a commitment to adopt its principles, options and policy base as suited to their local needs and circumstances.

### III. STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE GSF

8. The structure and content of the GSF should be consistent with the vision, roles and guiding principles of the CFS and, more specifically, of the GSF, as defined in the CFS Reform Document and detailed in the present document.
9. The content of the GSF will be drawn from CFS processes and mechanisms, including the HLPE and the mapping of food security actions; other existing frameworks, guidelines and coordination processes at all levels<sup>1</sup>; country-level experience and stocktaking; best practices; stakeholder dialogue and participation; and lessons-learned and evidence-based knowledge. In that manner, the GSF may:
- Identify key challenges and opportunities for food security and nutrition
  - Identify priorities for action in a number of areas and contexts related to food security and nutrition
  - Consolidate and disseminate policy options and recommendations about a range of issues related to food security and nutrition;
  - Promote convergence and international credibility for specific kinds of strategies, policies and programs related to food security and nutrition;
  - Describe and recommend principles and options for governance mechanisms and systems for the development and implementation of food security and nutrition strategies.
  - Foster coordination by consolidating recommendations about duplication of work / response gaps, including their financial aspects;
  - Consolidate macro-level warnings and recommendations about present/upcoming challenges, difficulties and bottlenecks for food security and nutrition;
  - Describe and recommend core elements of strategies, action plans and commitments that could be adopted by stakeholders at different levels.
  - Highlight key differences in policy and practice in areas related to food security and nutrition that could benefit from future consensus building and convergence.
  - Encourage the adoption of national strategies combining short and long-term objectives and identify ways and identify ways by which the international community can support States to invest in the transition from short term to long term.
10. To better fulfil its purpose of helping the CFS promote coordination and convergence, the GSF recommendations should be selected according to the principles of relevance, prioritization, and coherence, while also bearing in mind the need for flexibility and the differing realities across countries and regions.
11. The Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security may constitute the base structure from which the GSF will develop its analysis and recommendations.
12. Conceptually, the GSF may adopt for each section a structure based on (i) Analysis of challenges and opportunities; (ii) Policy recommendations, convergence, desired outcomes; (iii) risks, unknowns and areas for further development.

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<sup>1</sup> Including, but not limited to: the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security; the updated UN HLTf Comprehensive Framework for Action; the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD); the SUN Framework and Roadmap; the ICARRD Principles; the CAADP Frameworks/FAFS Framework; and relevant regional and national food security and nutrition frameworks.