



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fortieth Session

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UPDATE ON THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS TO DEVELOP PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

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Matters requiring attention of the Committee

The Committee takes note of the update provided in document CFS 2013/40/6 and endorses the proposed schedule for the way forward outlined in paragraph 6.

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 39th session the Committee, “having taken into consideration the outcome of the OEWG consultative process to prepare Terms of Reference for the process within CFS to develop principles for responsible agricultural investments:

- a) *approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an inclusive consultation process within CFS to develop and ensure broad ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investments;*
- b) *agreed that the consultation process will be implemented by the CFS Secretariat under the oversight of the Bureau and in close collaboration with the OEWG on responsible agricultural investments;*
- c) *requested that the principles emanating from the CFS consultative process be submitted for endorsement by CFS at its 41st Session in October 2014;*
- d) *emphasized the important role of the planned consultations on responsible agricultural investments, and encouraged all stakeholders to participate actively in the process.¹”*

2. The objective of this document is to provide a summary of activities carried out since October 2012, as well as to propose an updated schedule for activities following CFS 40.

II. PROGRESS REPORT

3. The inclusive consultative process launched in 2012 with the establishment of a multi-stakeholder Open Ended Working Group on rai (‘rai OEWG’) continued during the intersessional period through a number of activities.

a) Technical activities included:

- Review of existing international initiatives on responsible agricultural investments with the purpose of avoiding duplication and identifying gaps (November – December 2012);
- Set-up of a multi-agency Technical Support Team providing expertise on aspects related to gender, human rights, investments, natural resources and nutrition (November-December 2012);
- Preparation of an outline of the rai principles for review by the OEWG on 22 January 2013 (December 2012);
- Preparation of a Zero Draft for review by the OEWG on 16-17 May 2013 (February-April 2013);
- Preparation, as per the CFS Bureau decision of 17 May 2013, of a new version of the Zero Draft for review by the OEWG on 23-24 September 2013 (May –July 2013).

b) Information sharing and outreach activities included:

- the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (Berlin, January 2013);
- the CAADP Partnership Platform Meeting (Addis Ababa, March 2013) ;

¹ CFS 2012/39 FINAL REPORT

- the Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (Washington, April 2013);
- the Conference on Forests for Food Security and Nutrition (Rome, May 2013);
- The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Event (London, June 2013).

4. In addition, synergies were sought with other on-going processes such as the UN Global Compact Sustainable Agriculture Business Principles (SABPs) and the OECD Practical Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct along Agricultural Supply Chains.

5. Informal resource mobilization activities were also carried out to ensure adequate funding for the consultative process.

III. WAY FORWARD

6. Based on the outcomes of the above OEWG meetings, a revised schedule is proposed:

| Task | Timeframe |
|--|------------------------------|
| Zero Draft is discussed in OEWG | September 2013 |
| Regional and electronic consultations (Pending availability of funds, consultations may not be held in all regions) | October 2013 - 15 March 2014 |
| Release of Draft One | 1 April 2014 |
| Preliminary discussion on Draft One in OEWG | 29 – 30 April 2014 |
| Global meeting to be held in Rome to negotiate Final Version | 19 – 23 May 2014 |
| raii principles are endorsed at CFS Plenary | October 2014 |