



CFS39 – Special Session on Country and Regional Experiences **Friday 19 October 2012 – 14.30 - 17.30**

The purpose of this Special Session is to provide an opportunity for countries and regions to share best practices and identify common patterns regarding the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of their policies and programmes aimed at ensuring food security and nutrition. The session aims at enhancing the linkages between CFS, countries and regions and, as such, is expected to have the following outcomes:

- The identification of challenges, best practices and lessons learnt during the different phases of a food security strategy or plan of action at country or regional levels
- Guidance on how CFS can strengthen support to country-owned and/or regional food security plans and strategies
- The identification of potential linkages and ways to strengthen the coordination between the national or regional food security strategies and plan of actions and CFS

The National Strategy for Poverty Reduction in Iraq (NSPRI) – Red Room – 14.30-16.00

An ambitious program started recently to fight hunger and reduce poverty in Iraq. The government plan *The National Strategy for Poverty Reduction in Iraq (NSPRI)* is a five-year development plan aiming at bringing down the number of people under poverty line by 30% from the current level of 23% to 16% of the population by 2015.

The last Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis conducted in cooperation with the World Food Program in 2008 shows that nearly 7 million Iraqi citizens are classified under the poverty line of about \$2 a day and they are heavily dependent on Public Distribution System (PDS) for their daily intake of food. One million of them are in extreme poverty conditions and they are food insecure with uncertain access to one meal a day.

The NSPRI represents the Government of Iraq commitment to initiate programs, allocate resources and implement policies in the aim of reducing poverty and food insecurity in a gradual and progressive manner through implementation of its five-year development plan. The Plan has been developed in partnership with all internal and external stakeholders including private sector key players, civil society organizations and the World Bank.

Alba Alimentos – Green Room – 14.30-16.00

The Permanent Representation of Venezuela to FAO is pleased to organize a Special Session on the Initiative ALBA Alimentos. *The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America - Peoples' Trade Treaty* (ALBA-TCP) is an integration platform for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that includes Venezuela, Cuba, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Commonwealth of Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, Ecuador, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The Special Session will focus on ALBA Alimentos that aims at developing common actions in the agricultural field as a strategy to face the food crisis.

Harmonization of Food Security and Nutrition Actions Mapping – Red Room – 16.00-17.30

A Technical Workshop on Harmonization of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Actions Mapping – Streamlining with other Food Security and Nutrition Information Systems, was held in Rome on 3-5 September, 2012. The purpose of this special session is to present and discuss the main outcomes, findings, recommendations and possible follow-up actions proposed as a result of the discussions held during the workshop along two workstreams. One was regarding ways to improve the harmonization of methods and tools within and between specific FSN actions mapping systems with concerned partners, including the technical aspects of international standards with a view towards promoting greater compatibility and the exchange and use of data. The other involved explore ways to streamline FSN action mapping with other FSN information systems and discuss challenges and opportunities related to the integration/linkages of information sources. The Horn of Africa was used as a practical case study. The session will have three short presentations covering the above.