



WHAT'S THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION?

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) was created in October 2009 as an essential part of the CFS reform. The Steering Committee of the HLPE is appointed by CFS and it selects and manages Project Teams that provide scientific knowledge-based analysis and advice. HLPE reports are produced independently from CFS and its findings and recommendations serve as a basis for CFS discussions.

WHERE'S THE CFS SECRETARIAT BASED AND WHO'S IN IT?

The CFS Secretariat is based in FAO in Rome. The members of the Secretariat are from the three Rome based UN agencies - FAO, IFAD and WFP.

HOW IS THE CFS AGENDA DECIDED?

The Bureau, with advice from the Advisory Group and in collaboration with the Secretariat, decides on the annual agenda for the CFS Session.

THE RIGHT TIME FOR CFS

Food security and nutrition is everyone's business. The CFS multi-stakeholder platform enables all viewpoints to be considered when deciding on concrete actions to address issues affecting food security and nutrition such as the economic crisis and the rising demand for food.

FIND OUT MORE

If you'd like to find out more visit the CFS website at www.fao.org/cfs or email the Secretariat on cfs@fao.org.



THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY(CFS)

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.



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WHAT'S CFS?

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was set up in 1974 as an intergovernmental body to serve as a forum for review and follow up of food security policies. In 2009

the Committee went through a reform process to ensure that the voices of other stakeholders were heard in the global debate on food security and nutrition. The vision of the reformed CFS is to be the most inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together in a coordinated way to ensure food security and nutrition for all. CFS was reformed to address short term crises but also long term structural issues. The Committee reports annually to Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

WHO IS PART OF CFS?

CFS is made up of Members, Participants and Observers. The membership of the Committee is open to all Member States of The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) or The World Food Programme (WFP) and non-Member States of FAO that are Member States of the United Nations. Member States are encouraged to participate in CFS sessions at the highest level possible. Participants can be from representatives of UN agencies and bodies, civil society and non-governmental organizations and their networks, international agricultural research systems,



international and regional financial institutions and representatives of private sector associations and private philanthropic foundations. CFS may invite other interested organizations relevant to its work to observe entire sessions or specific agenda items.

WHO'S IN THE CFS BUREAU?

A twelve person Bureau is elected from Member governments to act as the executive arm of the Committee. The Bureau members include two representatives from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Near East, Latin America and the Caribbean and one each from the South West Pacific region and from North America. The Chair is independent and is elected by Member governments.



WHAT IS THE ADVISORY GROUP?

The Advisory Group is made up of representatives of CFS Participants. The Bureau and Advisory Group hold regular joint meetings throughout the year which ensures that a wide range of diverse opinions are included in the food security and nutrition debate.

HOW DOES CFS WORK?

CFS holds an annual plenary session which informs and advises the Membership on the latest food security and nutrition issues at global, regional and national levels. Policy round tables are held to provide policy advice on the most topical issues. CFS also contributes to various food security and nutrition related events and initiatives throughout the year.