



CFS OEWG-Nutrition Meeting #3

Date: 29 April 2016

Time: 9:00 -12:30 pm

Location: Red Room

Webcast link: <http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/4021/icode/>

Outcomes

First meeting of the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Nutrition

The meeting was webcast and can be viewed on:

<http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/4076/icode/>

IISD reported on the meeting, available at:

<http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/sd/enbplus184num15e.pdf>

Agenda

1. Introduction of the Decade of Action on Nutrition and discussion
2. Proposal for CFS engagement in advancing nutrition (for approval) and decision box (for approval)
3. Next steps

Outcomes

1. Introduction of the Decade of Action on Nutrition and discussion

Ms Anna Lartey, Director of the Division on Nutrition and Food Systems (FAO), presented the General Assembly Resolution declaring a Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), adopted on 1 April 2016 in New York. Mr Michel Mordasini, Chair of the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) and Vice-President of IFAD, introduced the new UNSCN strategic plan, aiming to give new impetus to the UN coordination on nutrition.

OEWG participants welcomed the Decade. Questions were raised on the process to develop a work plan to implement the Decade, the calendar of consultation with the membership in Rome, resourcing of the activities, and broadened participation from the UN System, stressing UNSCN's efforts to reach out to new UN actors including the SUN Movement and CFS.

2. Proposal for CFS engagement in advancing Nutrition and decision box (for approval)

The Chair proposed to structure the discussion in three parts, dedicated to:

- (i) Introduction and vision
- (ii) Functions and activities
- (iii) Decision box

(i) OEWG participants welcomed the revised document, recognizing that major improvements have been made that reflect a balance between collective positions. They expressed general support for the first part of the document (para. 1-12). A number of general and specific comments and wording suggestions were provided to refine the proposal. Comments included the need for mainstreaming

“adequate food” in the document in line with the vision; recognising the important role and contributions of private sector as well as of other actors; and acknowledging the existence of possible conflicting objectives between nutrition and profitability (paragraph 10). Clarifications were requested on the process for deciding on a different focus than food systems for CFS work on nutrition, in the medium and long terms, stressing the fact that these decisions should be subject to CFS approval.

(ii) Commenting on functions and activities, participants requested to mention CFS role as a platform for global coordination in a chapeau introducing the functions; to stress the importance of women’s empowerment and gender equality for CFS work on policy convergence; to mention the need for safeguards against conflicts of interest, using ICN2 wording. Participants welcomed the reference to the Decade of Action on Nutrition and a CFS contribution to its work programme, providing the contribution is agreed by Plenary, however recalling the importance not to overload CFS. Participants welcomed the lessons and good practice sharing function and asked to clarify the format and method used to achieve the expected results, with the possibility of considering different formats, such as workshops in plenary or intersessional activities. Some participants requested the addition of a paragraph on the contribution of partnerships for sharing lessons and good practices and a stronger reference to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement for potential collaboration, which others opposed it on the basis that there are other mechanisms and bodies that could be platforms for partnerships and sharing lessons and that not all members of the CFS are members of SUN. It was agreed that SUN would be referenced in a footnote. Regarding the CFS Platform for reviewing progress function, it was requested to replace “reviewing” by “tracking” to better reflect expectations. Participants also noted a contradiction between para 24 and 25 and asked to streamline the text.

(iii) The OEWG welcomed the draft of the CFS 43 decision box for CFS engagement in advancing nutrition. The following changes were agreed:

- Point b) add “in all its forms” after “malnutrition” and reference to ICN2 and SDGs.
- Point c) adjust the wording, taking into account the changes agreed in the Proposal for CFS engagement in advancing nutrition.
- Add new Point d) worded as follows: “Request the Secretariat (*instead of the OEWG-nutrition*), subject to available resources, to organize a series of events to develop a common understanding of issues to lay the basis for future CFS policy convergence and coordination work on nutrition”.

3. Next steps

- The CFS Secretariat will amend the Proposal and Decision Box, addressing the comments provided during the meeting, and share the revised versions with the OEWG participants by **13 May**. At that stage, only comments related to possible misinterpretation of issues agreed to be addressed during the OEWG meeting will be taken into consideration;
- The CFS Secretariat will finalize the TORs and Decision Box and submit them to the Bur/AG for approval at their **8 July** meeting.