



# COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

**Forty-third Session  
"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"**

**Rome, Italy, 17-21 October 2016**

**GUIDANCE NOTE FOR CFS CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2017 UNITED  
NATIONS HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM**

*The objective of this information note is to guide discussions at the 43<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) on elements of the contribution CFS should make in 2017 to the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the theme "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world".*

## **I. CONTEXT FOR THE CFS CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2017 GLOBAL REVIEW OF THE 2030 AGENDA IN THE HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

1. At its 42nd Plenary Session in October 2015, stakeholders called for CFS to put the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the centre of its work. A proposal in document "CFS Engagement in Advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (CFS 2016/43/6) was developed by an Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for submission to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Plenary of the Committee. In response to the call in the 2030 Agenda for functional commissions of ECOSOC and other intergovernmental bodies to support global follow-up and review in the HLPF, this proposal foresees a proactive contribution of the Committee to HLPF global thematic review discussions. CFS contributions would stress the inter-linkages between food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, as well as related issues under review, to provide policy advice for integrated implementation of the SDGs across the three dimensions of sustainable development.

2. In 2016, the HLPF solicited inputs from functional commissions and expert bodies of ECOSOC and about 80 intergovernmental committees and platforms, and received 47 contributions, including one from CFS. The CFS contribution, together with other contributions pertaining to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, are well reflected in the UN Secretariat's synthesis of

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contributions, but food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture and rural development were not prominent in the Ministerial Declaration arising from the HLPF.

3. The United Nations 71<sup>st</sup> General Assembly Resolution on "Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level", adopted on 29 July 2016, declared that the review of the 2030 Agenda, including on all SDGs, conducted by the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC will be held in 2017 under the theme "Eradicating Poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world". Furthermore, and without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs, a set of goals will be discussed in an in-depth review, which for 2017 are SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14. The proposal on CFS engagement in advancing the 2030 Agenda notes that CFS discussions, because they consider in greater depth the food security and nutrition situation, discuss the underlying causes, successful policies and bottlenecks, and exchange on experiences, can make a strong contribution to the necessarily broad and overarching HLPF sessions (CFS 2016/43/6, paragraph 17). The proposal foresees that CFS inputs to the HLPF can provide an overall review of the state of food security and nutrition, lessons learned relevant to the annual HLPF theme, and CFS policy instruments and decisions of relevance, possibly complemented by annexed references to relevant HLPF reports and notes on Critical and Emerging Issues (CFS 2016/43/6, Annex1). This contribution should be introduced by a summary of key CFS recommendations and decisions as they relate to the annual review theme and discussions in the HLPF.

4. Furthermore, in order to ensure timely inputs, the proposal states that, at least in 2017, a CFS Plenary discussion would be dedicated to the CFS contribution under the theme of the HLPF review, which would result in a decision on broad guidance and a mandate to the CFS Bureau to finalize the contribution prepared by an OEWG in the intersessional period. To facilitate consensual guidance from the Plenary discussion, for example on the content and structure of the contribution, a number of key questions are posed below. A possible annotated outline for the 2017 CFS contribution is provided.

5. The CFS contribution should be both tailored and aim to support and facilitate HLPF discussions by framing concisely CFS policy work and its cross-cutting nature in the context of the theme under review, and highlighting the main directly relevant issues in the products. It should also be based on endorsed decisions and products (i.e. such contributions should in no way re-open negotiated text).

### **Questions for Plenary Guidance**

- a) What are the most important messages that come out of the CFS work in relation to the 2017 review theme "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world"?
- b) Should relevant CFS policy work which has not yet been finalized/endorsed be referenced?
- c) How can the CFS contribution best reflect the interconnected nature of CFS work in relation to the HLPF review theme?
- d) How can the CFS contribution most effectively facilitate discussions in the HLPF, and have impact on the resulting guidance issued in the final declaration?
- e) Does the proposed outline below provide an adequate framework (structure, contents) for the OEWG on the SDGs, and the Bureau, when developing the 2017 contribution?

## **II. PROPOSED OUTLINE IN THE CFS 2017 CONTRIBUTION**

### **A. Introduction: Poverty, Prosperity and rapidly changing Food Systems**

6. Most recent findings of the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) Report/update on latest trends and data.

7. The poverty/hunger nexus and key interlinkages. Poverty permeates structural causes of hunger and malnutrition as they relate to governance, economic and production issues, demographic and social issues, climate and environmental issues (CFS Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition, chapter II, A “Structural causes of hunger and malnutrition”)

### **B. CFS Policy Work towards the Eradication of Poverty and Promotion of Prosperity**

8. Targeted contribution drawing on CFS relevant work on eradicating rural and urban poverty and on promoting prosperity. Stress importance for SDG 2, while elaborating linkages with the achievement of other SDGs under HLPF review. The following CFS work could be highlighted:

- Progressive realization of the Right to Food in the context of national food security
- Land tenure/Voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security (VGGT)
- Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems/Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI)
- Gender (reference to various CFS products)
- [Connecting Smallholders to markets – subject to endorsement at CFS43]
- Resilience in protracted crises/Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis (CFS-FFA)
- Social protection

### **C. New/emerging issues going forward: Ensuring a change towards sustainable and inclusive food systems in the world**

Point at upcoming CFS work of relevance to the theme, notably:

- Nutrition and food systems
- Rural transformation and urbanization
- Further work on women's empowerment for food security and nutrition

### **D. Conclusion**

- Key messages and recommendations for HLPF consideration