

## **WFO comments to the joint proposal by Egypt and Iceland**

WFO would like to thank the facilitators and co-chairs of the meeting on the response to the CFS evaluation, Germany and China, as well as both Iceland and Egypt for the joint proposal presented during the last meeting, on the role and composition of the Advisory Group.

WFO agrees with the rationale of the proposal. It is true indeed that the Advisory Group's work is limited by a number of constraints that slow down its impact on the work of the Committee on World Food Security, CFS.

Below are some comments on the proposed objective and solution:

On the Objective:

WFO shares the view that the AG should be a central body for the work of the CFS, because it represents some selected relevant stakeholders that have the expertise to advise Governments on specific matters related to food security and nutrition.

On The Proposal:

1. The AG represents the society on the ground that includes the beneficiaries of the CFS policy products as well as other relevant actors that play a fundamental role in identifying priorities, needs and challenges of the local and global population that should be addressed by CFS products and recommendations.

The work of the Advisory Group is to advise the Bureau and assist it by sharing the necessary expertise and knowledge for the Bureau to make proper decisions to be adopted by the CFS plenary.

To maintain its full effectiveness, the Advisory Group should work independently from the Bureau, although in consideration of the priorities set by the Bureau itself. In fact, the Advisory Group should be able to establish internal consultations aimed at providing a strategic response to the Bureau that could either be consolidated among the different members or differentiated by sector. Therefore, taking into account the Bureau needs, the AG should have its own agenda of meetings and discussion items.

2. Regarding the AG composition, it should be set according to the needs, nature and work of the CFS, using an open and inclusive approach that could allow for the invitation of other stakeholders whose expertise might be relevant for a specific topic under discussion. In this case, the Bureau should take into account the proposals/opinions of the AG on which stakeholders to invite.

3. WFO retains that the first paragraph of point number 3 of the proposal might be discriminatory for the other members of the AG and recommends reconsidering the proposal, based on this assumption.

The second paragraph of point n.3 may be implemented in joint meetings of the Bureau and AG, by inviting external stakeholders that are not officially members of the AG, on ad hoc participation.