

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESPONSE TO THE CFS EVALUATION RECOMMENDATION 2

### CFS ENDORSED RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 2

1. *“CFS will revise the MYPoW structure and process. The new MYPoW, starting in 2020 and covering at least 2 biennia, will include a “standing” section with the medium-to-long term strategic content, referring to global priorities (Agenda 2030), and informed by the HLPE Critical and Emerging Issues Note and RBAs strategic objectives, and a rolling section with activities that will be updated on a regular basis, taking into account resource availability. Priority will be given to critical, emerging and urgent FSN issues, considering their impact on people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. Plenary will be invited to propose, discuss and give guidance on issues to be considered, taking into account:*
  - *Information provided by the HLPE and global developments, considering their relevance to the work at country level of stakeholders including RBAs;*
  - *Potential duplication with other bodies;*
  - *Expected added value taking into account CFS roles and vision; and*
  - *Potential synergy across issues.*
  
2. *The preparation of MYPoW will include a comprehensive planning phase led by stakeholders to identify priority areas of work and will comprise for each activity a strong rationale for CFS engagement, objectives and outcomes, explicit CFS added value, roles and responsibilities post endorsement, monitoring activities and budget. The process will lead to a decision on whether to adopt or not the activity. The decision to include new activities in MYPoW will be conditional on resource availability, taking into account other factors, such as workload.”*

<i>Actions to be taken</i>	<i>Implementing body</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Further funding required (Y or N)</i>
<i>A2.1. Develop a proposal for a new MYPoW structure and process which is linked to Agenda 2030, with a standing section with the strategic content (see A1.1) and a rolling section with activities linked to resource availability.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018, to be endorsed at CFS 45</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>A2.2. Develop and apply clearer criteria for selecting CFS activities.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>A.2.3. Give Plenary the opportunity to propose, discuss and give guidance on critical, emerging and urgent FSN issues to inform the preparation of MYPoW.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By February each year for plenary in October</i>	<i>N</i>

<i>Actions to be taken</i>	<i>Implementing body</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Further funding required (Y or N)</i>
<i>A2.4. Define a comprehensive planning phase for MYPoW to identify activities, taking into account resource availability.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018</i>	<i>N</i>

**GUIDANCE FOR A NEW MYPoW STRUCTURE AND PROCESS**

- This note provides guidance to strengthen the strategic content of MYPoW through a new structure and process for planning and updating MYPoW. MYPoW has been made more strategic by clarifying the CFS roles and modalities of implementation and developing strategic objectives and expected results to be achieved during the next four-year MYPoW. The revised structure and process take into account the four actions endorsed in the response to the evaluation recommendation 2.

**1) Structure of MYPoW**

- The new MYPoW, which will cover four years starting in 2020, will include a standing section with the medium-to-long term strategic content, referring to global priorities in the field of food security and nutrition (2030 Agenda), and informed by the HLPE Critical and Emerging Issues Note and RBAs strategic objectives. A section specific to each MYPoW which will include the strategic objectives and the results and a rolling section with activities that will be updated on a regular basis.

**A. Standing Section: CFS vision and global objectives**

A.1. CFS Vision:

- As per the Reform Document endorsed in 2009, the Committee on World Food Security “constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. CFS strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”.

A.2. CFS overall objective:

- CFS aims at reducing hunger and malnutrition through improved policy convergence/ coherence at global level, which leads to strengthened actions at national and regional levels contributing to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.
- All activities in the MYPoW are designed, planned and implemented to promote specifically: inclusiveness and participation; evidence-based; environmental, economic and social sustainability; gender equality; focused on the most vulnerable and marginalized people and groups; multi-sectoral approach; resilience of livelihoods.

**B. Section to be updated every MYPoW**

B.1. Main trends and challenges in the field of food security and nutrition

8. This section will provide an overview of ongoing and foreseen FSN trends and challenges, with specific attention to areas relevant to the vision and objectives of the Committee. The section will cross-reference global priorities in the field of food security and nutrition (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ICN2), issues raised in HLPE note on critical and emerging issues, considering their relevance to stakeholders' work at country level, RBAs strategic objectives/work programmes and other CFS stakeholders work programmes and priorities.

#### B.2. Results for 2020-2023

9. CFS activities will be developed with the aim to support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, in particular SDG2 on ending hunger and SDG17 on revitalizing global partnerships for implementation of the SDGs, and other FSN relevant SDGs, through three strategic objectives. They will contribute to achieving CFS' vision of a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. They will contribute to CFS being recognized as the leading and most inclusive global platform for FSN and FSN being kept high on the global agenda (see response to recommendation 1).

10. MYPoW activities aim at producing the following types of outputs:

- (i) Policy messages from inclusive discussions

- Delivered by developing policy messages through exchange on FSN developments, trends and emerging and critical issues which are organized with a view to identifying sets of policy messages that are widely shared e.g. through Chair's Summary or, in exceptional circumstances, ministerial communiqués

Exchange might be organized in fora or events, including events organized to share lessons and monitor the use and application of CFS products and recommendations

- (ii) Global policy guidance

- Delivered through the preparation of negotiated policy products (voluntary guidelines, principles or other policy frameworks) and recommendations on strategic topics (mainly based on HLPE reports)

- (iii) Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)

- Delivered through regular updating of the GSF, incorporating CFS policy products and recommendations which are endorsed at the end of each plenary session

- (iv) Communication and outreach

- Delivered by raising awareness of CFS and its work through the CFS website and social media, reporting to global bodies such as UN ECOSOC and sharing information with other UN bodies as appropriate, and supporting, subject to available resources, outreach efforts of the CFS Chair and Vice-Chair in consultation with the Bureau

#### SO1:

*Output 1: e.g. (2017) Policy messages from the CFS Forum on Women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition in Chair's summary (CFS 2017/44/7) referred to in CFS 44 Final Report.*

#### SO2:

*Output 2.1: e.g. (2017) Policy recommendations based on the HLPE Report "Sustainable forestry for FSN"*  
*Output 2.2: e.g. (2017) GSF updated to include the major new international developments in the area of FSN (Chapter 3)*

#### SO3:

*Output 3.1: e.g. (2016) VGGT Global Thematic Event held in plenary*

### **C. Rolling Section: activities to be carried out (updated on regular basis)**

11. The rolling section of the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) will include agreed activities to be carried out by the Committee to deliver expected results. These activities may be updated biannually, or annually is needed to reflect plenary decisions, taking into account progress and new proposed activities (e.g. new event to discuss FSN emerging issues) and submitted to Plenary for consideration and endorsement, conditional on resources availability and considering the workload of the Committee.
12. MYPoW includes two types of activities in support of CFS outputs:

#### Thematic workstreams

##### Output 1.1: Policy messages from inclusive discussions

- *Activities*

##### Output 2.1: Global policy guidance

- *Activities*

##### Output 2.2: Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)

- *Activities*

##### Output 3.1: Communication and outreach

- *Activities*

#### Core activities

Core work of CFS includes all those activities that are relevant for the management of the Committee but that are not specifically linked to any of the established outputs. These include, among others, the organization of the annual plenary session with associated communication and outreach activities, support to the CFS Chairperson, preparation of the programme of work, and discussions on rules of procedure.

## **2) Process for the preparation of MYPoW**

13. The revised process will lead to a more effective prioritization of CFS thematic activities (Outputs 1.1 and 2.1), strengthening ownership and commitment of CFS stakeholders in implementing the results of CFS policy work, optimizing the contribution of HLPE in supporting CFS policy work and enforcing the decision to condition the inclusion of new activities in MYPoW to resource availability and workload. This will be achieved through the development and application of clearer criteria for prioritizing CFS thematic activities, guidance provided by plenary for the preparation of MYPoW and the inclusion of a comprehensive planning phase in the preparation of MYPoW.

### **(i) Criteria for prioritizing thematic activities to be included in MYPoW**

14. The following criteria will be used to prioritize the activities to be considered for inclusion in the CFS MYPoW.
  - a) **CFS vision and overall objectives:** the activity contributes to the elimination of hunger and achievement of food security and nutrition through policy convergence/coherence, addressing root causes affecting a high number of people with a focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized.

- b) **CFS added value:** the activity adds value to existing policy work in the relevant areas considering CFS comparative advantages and the work carried out in the past or to be carried out by other actors with similar mandates, avoiding duplication and looking for complementarity and synergy with other actors.

CFS main comparative advantages are the following:

- Its uniqueness in the UN system as an inclusive and multistakeholder platform for global coordination and policy convergence on Food Security and Nutrition
  - Its evidence-base through the independent High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition
  - Access to technical expertise from the Rome-based Agencies and UN bodies on FSN
  - The legitimacy of its policy outputs due to inclusive and consensus-based process, which, when used, support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- c) **Relevance to global priorities:** the activity addresses critical and emerging FSN issues based on HLPE information, specific SDGs falling within the mandate of CFS, UN Decade of action on nutrition (others?).
- d) **Commitment of CFS stakeholders:** CFS stakeholders are committed to using and applying the policy product resulting from the activity, with several member states championing the activity and expressing commitment and readiness to report and monitor the product after its endorsement.

## (ii) Comprehensive Planning Phase

15. The comprehensive planning phase aims at identifying, prioritizing and selecting MYPoW thematic activities, conditional on resource availability and workload of the Committee. It will strengthen stakeholders' ownership through their direct involvement in the initiation phase, make more strategic use of HLPE and will include a proposal for post-endorsement activities, timeline and budget. This process applies to thematic activities associated with outputs (i) - policy messages - and (ii) - global policy guidance. The process is expected to be faster for activities associated with outputs (i) as they will usually mainly consist in holding one event (e.g. a forum) and require less resources.
16. Plenary discussion: a note identifying critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition is commissioned every four years to the HLPE to help CFS membership prioritize future activities. A session in plenary is dedicated to discussing this HLPE note, sharing views and coming up with potential issues to be addressed in the context of CFS with the intention to feed subsequent discussions on the preparation of MYPoW proposals, without preventing CFS stakeholders to consider additional issues and topics in the following steps of the process.
17. The comprehensive planning phase includes a series of steps that can be undertaken anytime during the intersessional period. Each step of the process will be carried out under the responsibility and supervision of the CFS Chair who will consult with the different stakeholders involved and make sure that the views and positions of all are duly taken into account.
- a) Initiation  
Member states, participants and other stakeholders initiate the process by holding informal discussions among interested stakeholders and preparing and sharing a preliminary proposal among initiators.

The preliminary proposal will provide the following information:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rationale for including the activity in the MYPoW, based on how the activity meets the criteria for prioritizing MYPoW activities</li> <li>- Expected results and how they will contribute to the achievements of the MYPoW strategic objectives and FSN-relevant targets of the 2030 agenda</li> <li>- Proposed roles and responsibility post endorsement</li> <li>- Budget estimate, timeline and potential resource partners</li> </ul> |
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The proposal will include the preparation of an HLPE Report as appropriate. The decision to request the HLPE to produce a report should be based on a clear understanding of how the report will support the preparation of policy guidance and of how the report will feed into the process considering the timescale and the availability of evidence, research, data and technical studies on the subject under discussion.

This is an autonomous process, carried out by the originators of each proposal, with no support provided by the Secretariat. Each proposal needs to be supported by a number of CFS stakeholders<sup>1</sup> (who commit to the implementation of the policy work resulting from the activity) to be eligible for the next step.

b) Presentation and discussion of the proposals

A meeting (or several meetings if needed) is organized by the Secretariat for initiators to present their preliminary proposals to CFS stakeholders and discuss them based on criteria for prioritizing MYPoW activities. The proposals are then developed by the Secretariat as appropriate (e.g. preparation of a full project document if required)

c) Prioritization and selection

The prioritized proposals with clear indications on potential resource partners are circulated to regional and Advisory Group constituencies to carry out a consultation process with a view to presenting, if needed, a ranked proposal of activities for inclusion in MYPoW.

The Bureau takes a decision on which activities to include in the CFS MYPoW taking into account resource availability and workload. Each proposal needs to clearly meet the criteria for prioritizing thematic activities. Regarding workload, CFS has decided not to engage in more than one policy convergence process at a time<sup>2</sup>. Delays in the finalization of a negotiation process would automatically postpone the beginning of a subsequent one.

HLPE activities should be functional to the work of CFS and their selection should be based on a clear understanding of how they are intended to contribute to the objectives of the Committee and feed into its processes.

d) Plenary consideration and endorsement

The plenary, based on the consensus reached among its members, will endorse the proposed MYPoW, taking into account that the activities will not start until the resources are provided.

e) Updates

At the beginning of each intersessional period, detailed workplans for each activity included in the MYPoW are presented to the Bureau that will discuss and finalize them, in consultation with the Advisory Group. Reviews and updates are also foreseen biannually, or annually if needed, to consider possible changes or inclusion of new activities, pending available resources.

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<sup>1</sup> For instance support from at least 5 member states from 3 different regions could be required for a proposal to be considered.

<sup>2</sup> CFS 2015/42/12, Annex 1: Guidance note for selection of CFS activities