



CFS Nutrition OEWG meeting #3  
14 June 2018 – 14.00-17.00 - Red Room, FAO

## OUTCOMES

### Third Meeting of the CFS Nutrition Open-Ended Working Group

#### Agenda

- 1. Draft terms of reference for the preparation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition**
- 2. CFS 45 Draft Decision**
- 3. CFS intersessional events on nutrition**
- 4. Any other business**

#### Outcomes

The meeting was opened by the CFS Nutrition OEWG Chair, Mr Khaled El-Taweel (Egypt), who outlined the agenda and presented the background documents that were prepared for discussion.

#### 1. Draft terms of reference for the preparation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition

The revised version of the TORs was presented by the OEWG Chair who highlighted that this is the result of an intense and inclusive preparation process with the participation of all stakeholders, and support from the CFS Secretariat in collaboration with the Technical Task Team.

The OEWG welcomed the document noting, once again, that the conceptual framework and the policy entry points introduced in the HLPE report should be used as the basis and as the guiding element for the next steps of the process.

The importance for CFS to address the wide range of issues that are relevant to this subject was reiterated considering at the same time the need to avoid duplications with the work carried out by other bodies or contradictions with other policy instruments. The work of the Codex Alimentarius was explicitly mentioned in this regard.

Several requests and specific proposals were provided to strengthen sustainability considerations throughout the document. In response to the request to include a definition of sustainable diets, it was suggested to add a footnote making reference to the definition produced at the 2010 FAO Symposium on Biodiversity and Sustainable Diets by clarifying that the definition was not agreed by Member States. General agreement was expressed on the need to consider science-based data and evidence, including

environmental and social externalities of various food systems. It was also requested to make a reference to the future dissemination of the Voluntary Guidelines and the monitoring of their use and application.

It was reiterated that those suggestions that were not incorporated in the TORs because going beyond the nature of the document will be included in the elements paper. Participants were reminded that the elements paper is “*a working document [...] which includes the suggestions being provided by OEWG members on the issues and topics that could be addressed in the voluntary guidelines and that this document will be updated regularly by the Secretariat*” (outcomes of 2<sup>nd</sup> Nutrition OEWG meeting). The OEWG Chair confirmed that this document is intended to set the stage by highlighting a number of issues that might be discussed in the course of the preparation process and, in case of agreement, addressed in the Voluntary Guidelines.

It was stressed that the regional consultations represent an essential step of the process in order to get inputs and indications from the different actors in the field regarding priorities and needs of the potential beneficiaries of the CFS policy product. At the same time, it was highlighted that, in case of insufficient resources, alternative and more economic, but still effective, options are to be explored.

The OEWG agreed on the Terms of Reference with the proposed amendments. The TORs which are circulated together with these outcomes will be considered finalized if no objections are provided by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. At this stage only comments related to factual errors or misinterpretation will be considered.

Comments, suggestions and additions were provided concerning the document on relevant international guidance and technical documents informing the CFS policy convergence process. It was agreed to consider it as a living document to be posted on the CFS Nutrition working space. The CFS Secretariat was requested to further analyze the nature of the references and categorize guidance documents based on their nature.

## 2. CFS 45 Draft Decision

The draft decision concerning the CFS workstream on Nutrition to be taken by the Plenary next October was presented. No comments were provided. The document will be finalized by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, at its meeting on 25 July.

## 3. CFS intersessional events on nutrition

The revised version of the document presenting two different proposals for possible intersessional events was presented for discussion. Almost equal support was received by the two proposals with a slight preference for the first one on food systems framework and typologies. The CFS Secretariat was requested to further develop the first proposal in collaboration with the Technical Task Team bearing in mind that the purpose of the event would be to inform the ongoing policy convergence process. A date was agreed for this event – 19 September 2018 - pending financial resources.



## Open Ended Working Group on Nutrition

### OUTCOMES - CFS OEWG-NUTRITION/2018/06/14/03

However, it was reiterated that if no additional resources are provided in the next few weeks the event will not take place, considering that its organization needs time and appropriate planning.

### 3. Any other business

No other business were discussed.