

CSM Contributions to the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau Meeting of 14 May 2019

Annex to Agenda Item 1 – Forestry event proposal

The CSM welcomes the constructive discussions in the joint Meeting of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group in preparation of the event on the relation between commercial plantations and FSN. We would like to recall that the need for this event was agreed by consensus at the CFS Plenary 2017 by prior to the endorsement of the policy recommendations. This was based on the recognition that the lack of discussion on this topic was a major gap in the policy process on sustainable forestry, and a missed opportunity for the unique space and role of the CFS. The scope and content of the event should build on the spirit of the mentioned CFS plenary discussion.

Therefore, CSM believes the CFS event should i) pay special attention to the perspectives of small-scale producers and indigenous peoples, which includes forest dependent communities, ii) discuss policy coherence and iii) make space for genuine debate between all stakeholders, including the RBAs

Scope and content should include the following elements:

All actors present to understand and share perspectives on why there is a need to consider the specific impacts of plantations within a discussion on sustainable forests.

Provide adequate space for hearing 2-3 members of different CSM constituencies to present the experiences of indigenous peoples, small scale producers and forest dependent communities with regard to plantations at both local and global level. These communities are highlighted as a key constituencies in the policy recommendations.

Consider what the multiple and competing demands on forests (to deliver on climate, FSN, biodiversity, cultures) means for assessing the FSN impacts of plantations

Share perspectives on the challenges facing UN agencies and international institutions in providing coherent policy frameworks on FSN, forests and plantations

Presentations should be aimed at generating a fruitful discussion. We could have short inputs for the discussion from a wide range of actors – including the COFO and CFS Chairs, small-scale producers, indigenous peoples and local communities, experts from CIFOR or HLPE, FAO, IFAD, the UN special rapporteur on the RTF, and the private sector.

The discussion would be most meaningful if there is adequate space for debate and discussion after the presentation of inputs. The discussion should focus on bringing to the table a set of specific issues with regard to commercial plantations and FSN that could be considered in the further work of all involved actors and participants.

Based on this, we suggest the following elements for the agenda:

- Welcome and introduction CFS chair
- Presentation of short inputs from panellists based on the agreed themes from a range of actors as described above
- Debate and discussion of at least 1 hour
- Reactions to the debate from RBA, CSM, PSM and CFS Bureau members
- Concluding remarks from COFO Chair