



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## CONFERENCE

### Thirty-sixth Session

Rome, 18 - 23 November 2009

### REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS) Rome, 14, 15 and 17 October 2009

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## I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. The Committee on World Food Security held its Thirty-fifth Session from 14 to 17 October 2009 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The Session was attended by delegates from 101 out of 123 Members of the Committee, by observers from 5 other Member Nations of FAO, the Holy See, the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Sovereign Order of Malta, by representatives from 6 United Nations Agencies and Programmes; and by observers from 3 intergovernmental and 30 international non-governmental organizations. The report contains the following annexes: Appendix A - Agenda of the session; Appendix B - Membership of the Committee; Appendix C - Countries and organizations represented at the session; and Appendix D - List of documents. Mr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General, made a statement, which is attached as Appendix E. Ms Josette Sheeran, Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP) made a statement, which is attached as Appendix F. Mr Kevin Cleaver, Assistant President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) made a statement, which is attached as Appendix G. The full list of participants is available from the CFS Secretariat.
2. The Session was opened by Ms Maria del Carmen Squeff of Argentina as Chairperson.
3. The Committee appointed a Drafting Committee composed of Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Egypt, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Sweden, under the chairmanship of Dr Nabeel Ahmed Saad (Sudan).

## II. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON FOOD SECURITY

4. The Committee considered the impact of the economic crisis on food security and how various stakeholders have addressed the crisis at the national level. Mr Hafez Ghanem, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department, provided a brief overview of “The State of Food Insecurity (SOFI)” 2009, which was officially launched during this session of the CFS. This year SOFI was co-published between FAO and WFP, with inputs from IFAD and others. The Committee welcomed the release of SOFI 2009.
5. Key messages and highlights from SOFI 2009 include that:
  - even before the recent food and economic crises, hunger was on the rise, highlighting the chronic and structural nature of the problem;
  - estimates show that 1.02 billion people are undernourished worldwide in 2009; sharp increases since 2007 are mainly due to the food and financial crises;
  - to cope with crises, poor people reduce the amount and diversity of their diet and spending on education and health care;
  - a healthy agriculture sector can provide an economic and employment buffer in times of crisis;
  - safety nets must address the short-term impacts and should be combined with long-term support to productive sectors especially agriculture;
  - a right to food approach can play an important role in eradicating food insecurity.
6. It was regretted that the CFS plenary did not have the opportunity to examine the SOFI 2009 Report and the FAO Secretariat was urged, in the future, to release the report well in advance of the CFS meeting in order to allow for an in-depth discussion.
7. The Chairperson highlighted the importance of learning from the existing experience and ongoing initiatives at the local, national and international levels. The Committee welcomed the presentations from four invited practitioners who shared their experiences and key lessons learned

and the facilitated discussion which followed. It was felt that this kind of interactive discussion could continue in future sessions of the CFS.

8. The topics and essence of these four presentations are briefly summarized below.

a. *How can inter-ministerial coordination be facilitated at the national level?* Rafael Uaiene, from the Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM), presented the institutional structure and progress achieved by the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN) in Mozambique. He stressed the importance of:

- improved communication and information sharing between all actors; and
- targeting efforts on the basis of vulnerability assessments.

b. *In addressing the question of how multi-stakeholder dialogue can contribute to designing effective policy response,* Francisco Sarmiento from Action Aid International drew from his NGO experience in building institutional frameworks in more than twenty countries. He stressed the importance of:

- bringing civil society organizations and their knowledge to bear on food security strategies;
- capacity building of civil society actors; and
- sharing knowledge and experiences between countries.

c. *How can country and donor commitments to reducing hunger and food insecurity be made more accountable?* Adriana Aranha, from the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, reported on the progress made through the Zero Hunger programme in reducing food insecurity. Key elements included:

- procurement of staple food from small scale women and family farmers to supply school feeding, humanitarian and social support programmes;
- strong multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- a rights based approach; and
- strong leadership at the highest governmental level.

d. *How can a strong agriculture sector provide an economic and employment buffer in times of crisis?* Prof. Benyamin Lakitan, from the Indonesian Ministry of Research and Technology, reported evidence of the importance of agriculture as a buffer in times of economic crises, as occurred in Indonesia during the Asian economic crisis of the 1990s. Key elements included:

- the contraction in industrial employment resulted in a shift to work on the land providing a livelihood for millions;
- additional job opportunities were created in agriculture and related businesses such as post harvest handling, food processing and distribution;
- there is an on-going challenge to increase agricultural incomes so that people will keep farming rather than return to industrial employment.

### **III. REFORM OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)**

9. Ms Maria del Carmen Squeff, as Chair, introduced the item by giving a brief presentation of the highlights and content of document CFS:2009/2 – “Reform of the Committee on World Food Security”, including key outstanding issues. The Committee welcomed the document and expressed its appreciation for the work of the Chair and the Bureau and for the open and inclusive approach taken during the CFS reform process, especially by means of the establishment of a Contact Group that was open to participation by representatives of all relevant stakeholders.

10. The work of the Contact Group and of the CFS Plenary resulted in a revised reform document that was approved en bloc by the Plenary (Appendix H).

11. The Committee agreed that the final CFS reform document should be communicated to the Governing Bodies of WFP and IFAD and other relevant UN bodies and agencies, including UN General Assembly through ECOSOC, and to the participants and observers of the reformed CFS.

12. The Committee requested that the FAO Legal Office proceed, for the consideration of the CCLM, with the changes to the General Rules of FAO and to the Rules of Procedures of the CFS according to the implementation plan contained in paragraph 51 of the CFS reform document.

#### **IV. FOLLOW-UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (ICARRD)**

13. The Committee considered document CFS:2009/3 which was briefly introduced by Mr Alexander Müller, Assistant Director-General of the Natural Resources and Environment Department. The Committee also noted the valuable presentations of Mr Celso Carvalho, from the Ministry of Agrarian Development of Brazil, and Ms Astrid Jakobs de Pàdua, of the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection respectively on the Brazilian experience in applying ICARRD recommendations, and on the importance of tenure governance to support land reform and rural development and implement the right to food.

14. The Committee recognized the importance of secure access to land and other natural resources for alleviating poverty and hunger and the key challenges presented by land tenure reforms. An open facilitated discussion followed, aimed at identifying key aspects of land tenure governance, in need of policy guidance, and impediments to the preparation of voluntary guidelines for responsible governance of tenure of land and natural resources. The Committee noted that important elements of the follow-up to the ICARRD are embedded in FAO's strategic objective F, and strategic objective G as elaborated in the Medium Term Plan (2010/2013) and requested work in these areas to be reported to the upcoming meeting of the CFS.

15. The Committee considered the proposal to prepare Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Land and Natural Resources to be a valuable approach in addressing issues of rights and effectiveness of land tenure institutions, in the spirit of the ICARRD final declaration. The Committee also noted that land tenure and land reform issues are very much country specific, and should be addressed as such.

16. However, the Committee also noted that the proposal to prepare of Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Land does not cover all of the key elements of the ICARRD declaration and the ICARRD follow-up. It was stated that agrarian reform, support to small scale family farming and equitable rural development are central elements of ICARRD follow-up that should be addressed by FAO's work.

17. The Committee suggested that FAO inform its Regional Conferences to be held in 2010 of the possibility to report on ICARRD follow-up and to propose any specific actions for such follow-up for consideration by the Finance and Programme Committees, by the Council (in 2010), and by the Conference (in 2011). The new roles and procedures regarding the Regional Conferences (following the reform of FAO) should be taken into consideration in this regard.

18. It was proposed that, considering the complex technical nature of questions related to land tenure, land reform and rural development, and the strong relationships they have with food security, these issues and ICARRD follow-up be also submitted for analysis and discussion to the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition.

## V. OTHER MATTERS

19. The Committee elected by acclamation the members of the incoming CFS Bureau: Mr Noel D. De Luna, Deputy Permanent representative of the Republic of the Philippines as Chairman, and representatives from Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Russian Federation and United States of America.

20. The Committee recommended that its Thirty-sixth Session be held in October 2010 and linked to the World Food Day as indicated on the Provisional Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies. The exact dates would be determined by the Director-General in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee.

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**APPENDIX A**

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**AGENDA****I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

Adoption of Agenda and Timetable

Statement by the Director-General or his Representative

Membership of the Committee

**II. ECONOMIC CRISIS AND IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY (FROM SOFI 2009)****III. REFORM OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY****IV. FOLLOW-UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (ICARRD)****V. OTHER MATTERS**

- a) Any Other Business
- b) Election of Bureau
- c) Arrangements for the Thirty-sixth Session
- d) Report of the Session

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**APPENDIX B**


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**MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE  
(as of 17 October 2009)**

Afghanistan	Denmark	Jordan
Algeria	Dominican Republic	Kenya
Angola	Ecuador	Kuwait
Argentina	Egypt	Latvia
Armenia	El Salvador	Lebanon
Australia	Eritrea	Lesotho
Austria	Estonia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Azerbaijan	Ethiopia	Lithuania
Bangladesh	Equatorial Guinea	Luxembourg
Belarus	European Community (Member Organization)	Madagascar
Belgium	Finland	Malaysia
Benin	France	Mali
Bolivia	Gabon	Mauritius
Brazil	Gambia	Mexico
Bulgaria	Germany	Morocco
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Mozambique
Cameroon	Greece	Namibia
Canada	Guatemala	Netherlands
Cape Verde	Guinea	New Zealand
Chile	Haiti	Nicaragua
China	Honduras	Niger
Colombia	Hungary	Nigeria
Congo	Iceland	Norway
Costa Rica	India	Pakistan
Côte d'Ivoire	Indonesia	Panama
Croatia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Paraguay
Cuba	Iraq	Peru
Cyprus	Ireland	Philippines
Czech Republic	Italy	Poland
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Japan	Portugal
		Qatar



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Republic of Korea	South Africa	United Arab Emirates
Republic of Moldova	Spain	United Kingdom
Romania	Sri Lanka	United Republic of Tanzania
Russian Federation	Sudan	United States of America
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Sweden	Uruguay
San Marino	Switzerland	Venezuela
Saudi Arabia	Thailand	Yemen
Senegal	Togo	Zambia
Serbia	Tunisia	Zimbabwe
Slovakia	Turkey	
Slovenia	Uganda	
	Ukraine	

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**APPENDIX C**

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**COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE SESSION****MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Afghanistan

Algeria

Angola

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Belgium

Brazil

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso

Cameroon

Canada

Cape Verde

Chile

China

Colombia

Costa Rica

Côte d'Ivoire

Cuba

Cyprus

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Denmark

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Estonia

Ethiopia

European Community (Member  
Organization)

Finland

France

Ghana

Greece

Guatemala

Guinea

Haiti

Hungary

Iceland

India

Indonesia

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Iraq

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Jordan

Kenya

Kuwait

Lesotho

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Luxembourg

Malaysia

Mali

Mauritius

Mexico

Morocco

Mozambique	Turkey
Netherlands	Uganda
New Zealand	Ukraine
Niger	United Arab Emirates
Nigeria	United Kingdom
Norway	United Republic of Tanzania
Pakistan	United States of America
Panama	Uruguay
Paraguay	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Peru	Yemen
Philippines	Zambia
Portugal	Zimbabwe
Qatar	
Republic of Korea	<b><u>OBSERVERS FROM MEMBER</u></b>
Romania	<b><u>NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF THE</u></b>
Russian Federation	<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>
San Marino	
Saudi Arabia	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Senegal	Malawi
Slovakia	Mauritania
South Africa	Oman
Spain	Syrian Arab Republic
Sri Lanka	
Sudan	<b><u>OTHER OBSERVERS</u></b>
Sweden	Holy See
Switzerland	Palestine Liberation Organization
Thailand	Sovereign Order of Malta
Tunisia	

### **REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES**

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

WORLD BANK

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

**OBSERVERS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

AFRICAN UNION

ARAB ORGANIZATION FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE

**OBSERVERS FROM INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

ACTION AID

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

ACTION GROUP ON EROSION, TECHNOLOGY AND CONCENTRATION

AGENCY FOR CO-OPERATION AND RESEARCH IN DEVELOPMENT

ASIAN FARMERS' ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

BIOVERSITY INTERNATIONAL

COLLECTIF STRATEGIES ALIMENTAIRES

CONCERN WORLDWIDE

CONFEDERACIÓN DE ORGANIZACIONES DE PRODUCTORES FAMILIARES DEL  
MERCOSUR AMPLIADO

CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL

FIAN INTERNATIONAL - FOOD FIRST INFORMATION AND ACTION NETWORK

GREENPEACE INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND RELATED  
SCIENCES

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HOME ECONOMICS

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MOVEMENTS

INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS OF CATHOLIC AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL YOUTH

INTERNATIONAL NGO/CSO PLANNING COMMITTEE

MORE AND BETTER CAMPAIGN, FOR FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT TO ERADICATE HUNGER AND POVERTY

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL

PASSIONIST INTERNATIONAL

PRACTICAL ACTION

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

WOMEN ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE IN AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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**APPENDIX D**

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**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<b>Document No.</b>	<b>Title</b>
CFS:2009/1	Provisional Agenda and Agenda Notes
CFS:2009/2	Reform of the Committee on World Food Security
CFS:2009/3	Follow-up to the international conference on agrarian reform and rural development (ICARRD) – advancing food security and rural development through better governance of tenure
CFS:2009/Inf.1	Provisional Timetable
CFS:2009/Inf.2	List of Documents
CFS:2009/Inf.3	Membership of the Committee on World Food Security
CFS:2009/Inf.4	List of Delegates and Observers
CFS:2009/Inf.5	Statement of Competence and Voting Rights submitted by the European Community (EC) and its Member States
CFS:2009/Inf.6	Statement by the Director-General or his representative
CFS:2009/Inf.7	Contribution from the UN System High-Level Task Force for the Global Food Security Crisis (HLTF)
CFS:2009/Inf.8	Monitoring Food Security Activities at National Level: Methodological Progress and Illustrative Results
CFS:2009/Inf.9	Information Note Regarding CFS Budget

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## APPENDIX E

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### STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

*Madam Chairperson and Members of the Committee Bureau,  
Excellencies,  
Madam Executive Director of WFP,  
Distinguished Representative of the President of IFAD,  
Honourable Delegates and Observers,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I should like to begin by thanking you for being here in Rome to attend the Thirty-fifth Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). You are gathering at a crucial time when the Committee is called upon to engage in reform that will help it fulfil its mission at a time when world food security faces extraordinary challenges.

In 1996, the World Food Summit organized by FAO made the solemn commitment to halve the level of hunger and undernutrition in the world. For that purpose it adopted a programme to achieve sustainable food security. That commitment was subsequently reaffirmed at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the World Food Summit: *FIVE YEARS LATER* in 2002 and the FAO High-Level Conference on World Food Security in June 2008.

Unfortunately, FAO's most recent data on world hunger and malnutrition indicate a situation that is even more worrying than in 1996. In the last three years, food insecurity has risen throughout the world, mainly on account of the global crisis of 2007-2008, triggered by soaring food prices and exacerbated by the financial and economic crisis that has shaken the world for more than a year. Thus the number of people suffering from chronic hunger and poverty in 2009 has risen by 105 million since last year, bringing the total number of undernourished people to over one billion, in other words one out of every six inhabitants of the world. Virtually all of these people live in the developing countries: 642 million in Asia and the Pacific; 265 million in sub-Saharan Africa; 53 million in Latin America and the Caribbean; and 42 million in the Near East and North Africa.

In July, thirty countries were in a state of serious food crisis requiring emergency aid. They included twenty countries in Africa and ten in Asia and the Near East.

The food insecurity crisis represents a grave threat to world peace and stability as we saw in 2007-2008 with the food riots that broke out in 22 countries in all the regions of the world. We need to urgently secure broad international policy consensus to totally and rapidly eliminate hunger in the world and take all necessary measures to that end.

The challenge of eliminating hunger is not one of insufficient knowledge or resources available to the international community.

The vision of a world free from hunger is feasible. Concrete changes in political strategy are indispensable to achieve that objective.

The time has come to act responsibly and to address the many root causes of food insecurity by taking bold decisions and adopting lasting political, economic, financial and technical solutions.

The food crisis of 2007-2008 highlighted the inadequacy of current governance of world food security. Despite its many advantages, in particular its intergovernmental nature as a forum of

sovereign States, its universal composition and its neutrality, the CFS has been unable to fully accomplish its mission of monitoring food security. There are at least five reasons for this: i) it lacks a high-level international policy-making body in the sectors of international cooperation and of food and agriculture; ii) it lacks an integrated framework for short-, medium-, and long-term sectoral scientific advice on hunger; iii) it lacks authority to evaluate and coordinate policies affecting world food security, in particular as regards production, agroindustry, trade, social safety nets and financing; iv) it lacks an effective mechanism to track food security decisions and actions at national and regional level; and v) it lacks the financial resources needed to carry out its mandate.

At the FAO High-Level Conference on World Food Security in June 2008, firm proposals were made to reinforce the governance of food security. One of these was to create a Global Network of High-Level Experts on Food and Agriculture and a Global Partnership to enhance consultation with all stakeholders and facilitate the coordination and implementation of actions on the ground. These proposals were discussed at numerous intergovernmental meetings, including the G8 Summit in Hokkaido in July 2008, the Special Session of the FAO Conference in November 2008, at L'Aquila in July 2009, and last month at the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh.

The proposals for CFS reform that are tabled today are the end-product of an arduous task initiated and conducted by the member countries.

One aspect that clearly emerged from all the discussions was that we did not want to create new structures. Instead, we wanted to enhance, strengthen, coordinate, in other words reform, what existed, so that our action could be more effective.

At its Special Session in November 2008, the FAO Conference requested that the CFS - which is open to all Member Nations of FAO and all Member States of the United Nations as well as representatives of other international institutions, NGOs, the private sector and civil society, and which is tasked with monitoring the evolution of food security in the world – be able to fully play its role in the new system of world governance.

The new CFS should become a global forum for debate and convergence on the causes and consequences of food insecurity and the ways to address them. It should lay the principles for the formulation of appropriate policies and strategies and should have the means to monitor progress and to report on their implementation.

The members of the CFS, under the leadership of its Bureau, agree over the need to engage in its profound renewal. They have initiated a process of reform based on three principles: first, to include all stakeholders in CFS discussions; second, to serve as a genuine global forum for Member States of the United Nations and Member Nations of FAO; and third, to adopt new processes of governance and decision-making. Thus, the Bureau has decided to create a Contact Group made up of representatives of Member States and Nations, international organizations and financial institutions, NGOs, civil society and the private sector.

I should like to stress that the CFS Bureau, under the guidance of Mrs Maria del Carmen Squeff and with continuous support from the representatives of member countries and the secretariat, has conducted a most rigorous and determined process of consultation on reform, based on the broadest of participation of all parties concerned.

I should like to assure you of my personal commitment and that of FAO in supporting the changes that are decided and in implementing all actions required to renew and strengthen the CFS as the cornerstone of the Global Partnership for Food Security.

A renewed and revitalized structure for the governance of food security should aim to:

1. keep agriculture and food security at the top of the international agenda for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in the world;
2. fully understand the factors that affect world food security, the associated risks and remedial actions;
3. ensure close links between technical expertise and policy-making;

4. see that the international community adopts a coherent and systematic approach to food security with the capacity:
  - to respond rapidly to situations of food crisis and emergency in order to mitigate their negative effects;
  - to stimulate investment in agriculture and rural development and mobilize the funding required to ensure the food security of local populations;
  - to help bolster the governance of food security in a framework of coherence and synergy of policies, strategies and actions at all levels: national, regional and international.

If they are to be credible, CFS discussions and decisions must rest on solid scientific and technical evidence. Hence the importance of establishing a high-level network of experts. Its principal task will be to provide Member Nations, CFS organizations and other interested parties with information analyses and summaries that can help produce scientific advice on technical and economic matters. Such knowledge will shape policies, strategies and programmes to enhance food security and nutrition at global, national and local level.

FAO has long worked with sector-specific expert bodies and groups, in a precise juridical framework and following detailed procedures. It has thus received advice on policy and guidelines in many fields, including food, agricultural crops, animal production, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, but also the agricultural commodity trade. Many of these bodies and groups have functioned continuously for decades. This mechanism must be strengthened and its inherent expertise must be better integrated for the benefit of the CFS.

*Excellencies,  
Honourable Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

You have before you a document on proposals for reform of the Committee on World Food Security. This is the result of a year of intense work that has not always been easy. Your dedication and determination have hastened the successful conclusion of the process of CFS reform. I should like to pay tribute to your exceptional commitment to this difficult task and the untiring efforts of all members of the CFS Bureau. I should like to express my deepest gratitude to you all for all this work carried out in a spirit of dialogue and convergence, which has allowed us to put forward a reform document that we hope can be adopted by consensus.

I hope that this session of the CFS will put us on the path of renewal so that we may lay the foundations of a Committee on World Food Security that is efficient, effectual and effective. Success in this undertaking will take us significantly forward towards the final eradication of hunger in the world.

It is therefore with eager anticipation that I await the outcome of your deliberations.

I wish you every success in your work and thank you for your kind attention.



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**APPENDIX F**

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**STATEMENT BY MS JOSETTE SHEERAN**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)**

Thank you, Madame CFS Chair

Dr. Diouf, Assistant President Cleaver, Excellencies from throughout the world, NGO leaders and national representatives, we stand at a critical crossroads. It is not unlike the one faced by leaders gathered in Rome in 1974 at the World Food Summit, which established the Committee on Food Security. While we have had great success reducing the proportion of hungry by half, the absolute number has been growing.

Today, we have over a billion hungry people – a record number. One out of every six people on earth wakes up every morning not knowing whether they will have enough food to eat. Today the hunger MDG is the most threatened, and we face losing much of a generation of children to severe malnutrition.

Unfortunately, this may not just be a temporary reversal in a four-decade positive trend in decreasing the proportion of hunger. Last year's food crisis is still in full force, with 80 percent of commodities priced higher than a year ago in much of the developing world. This has been compounded by this year's global financial crisis. The world's poorest and most vulnerable people are being disproportionately impacted with lost jobs, diminishing remittances, slowed exports and declining investment.

This has also not been a good year for weather-related and conflict-induced emergencies. I was in Pakistan last week, comforting my shattered staff, who could not understand why those who are dedicated to feeding nearly 10 million people would be targeted by a suicide bomber intent on murder and mayhem. I am here to let you know that they are undeterred. I thank you for the unprecedented global solidarity from all your nations, and from the public in Pakistan for these fallen heroes.

We have no shortage of hunger related emergencies. A big focus of our work, resources and staffing is dedicated to responding to emergency-related hunger.

Next week I will be visiting our operations the Philippines, which as been ravaged by typhoons, mudslides and floods, leaving hundreds of thousands without homes, farms or food. In Sumatra, tens of thousands have been displaced by an earthquake. In Kenya devastating drought has made a once bountiful land a parched desert and left millions of people hungry. Other nations are shaken by internal conflicts and displacement, adding tens of millions to the ranks of the food insecure.

The World Food Programme has long been the partner with governments as the world's hunger emergency response team. And when disaster strikes we will always be there. In the past year the world has also reaffirmed its intention to find permanent solutions to urgent and chronic hunger with comprehensive, concerted, coordinated action. We need continued support from each of you, representing the nations of the world, and a united effort from the food agencies here in Rome – FAO, IFAD and WFP – as well as the World Bank, UNICEF, NGOs and other partners.

The good news is that we have already proven that a concerted, coherent approach can work. During last year's food crisis the Secretary General urgently pulled together a High Level Task Force, co-chaired by Jacques Diouf, and coordinated by David Nabarro, which worked to bring unprecedented resources – including the World Bank – and coordination to help quell food riots in 30 countries by partnering with countries to address urgent needs. A hungry world is an unstable world and together, our collective efforts made it safer. In the largest emergency build-up

in our history, WFP provided emergency assistance to an additional 30 million of the most vulnerable in nations hardest hit by the crisis.

We must move with urgency to build sustainable solutions to hunger, from emergency response in crisis to ensuring small holder farmers can feed their families. That's why CFS reform is critical. We need to build on what we learned from the coordinated success of the HLTF and create a platform that brings forward the best ideas, practices, institutions and solutions for food security.

Madame CFS Chair, I applaud all in this room who have dedicated so much to this critical reform.

A comprehensive approach to food security was put at the top of the global agenda by world leaders this July in L'Aquila and reiterated by the G20 last month. This has followed efforts in pioneering new hunger solutions by the African Union, Brazil, India, China, Malawi, Mexico and many others.

The CFS is an important part of global food security solutions. The Rome agencies – and all the member states – must work to institutionalize a truly inclusive and effective mechanism. This requires the best knowledge and expertise of all the agencies here today, as well as civil society, NGOs and national leaders.

WFP has been actively engaged in the Contact Group that has been established to guide the CFS reform process, including the deliberations of the various working groups and the drafting committee on the role and vision of the CFS.

Let me briefly raise two issues that I think are critical to CFS reform, and to ensuring that we develop and deploy effective, coherent and innovative hunger solutions.

First, I applaud the comprehensive approach that ranges from production to urgent emergencies. In particular, the fact that nutrition is recognized as an integral part of food security is critical, with the latest scientific proof that a malnourished young child's brain and body will be damaged for life. It is urgent that the world come together to end child malnutrition. This is a human tragedy, and a collective moral failing that we all bear. It is also a burden on the GDPs of developing nations. One child dies every six seconds due to malnutrition – that is 3.5 million needless deaths every year.

Second, I welcome efforts to make CFS more inclusive and effective. I believe it is critical that we ensure the full participation of all the Rome-based agencies the whole architecture of the reformed CFS, including in its secretariat. I also believe it is important to have expanded participation by NGOs – critically including those from the developing world – the private sector, and civil society.

The reforms being considered today are, I believe, a recognition that no one agency can tackle food security alone. It takes all of us to develop and deploy sustainable, comprehensive hunger and nutrition solutions, support country-led food security strategies, and better anticipate and respond to emergencies.

As the CFS engages in reform, I encourage all of us to ensure that our efforts serve to reduce the growing number of hungry people and to make each dollar, euro and krona go as far as possible.

I thank the world for the historic new commitment of funds and coordinated efforts. This is not only the right thing to do, but it is in each nations' self-interest.

Today's meeting, coupled with next month's World Food Summit, presents an opportunity to reaffirm our roles and deploy to cut hunger and malnutrition in a grand partnership of nations and the institutions built to ensure food security for all.

Let's turn talk into action, and actions into solutions, so every parent can have dignity of feeding their family, every small holder farmer can take pride in feeding their community and every leader can be assured of providing sustenance for their people.

This battle of achieving adequate food and nutrition for all is one we can – and must – win.

Thank you.

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**APPENDIX G**

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**STATEMENT BY MR KEVIN CLEAVER**  
**ASSISTANT PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL**  
**DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)**

Thank you Mr Director General  
Ladies and Gentlemen

IFAD is happy to address this forum brought together to discuss the reform of the CFS. FAO hosted on Monday and Tuesday an expert conference entitled “Feeding the World in 2050”. Governments, civil society, farm groups, scientists, international agencies, including IFAD, participated.

The forum discussed national and international agricultural policy, governance, climate change and environment issues, investment options/private and public, technology, empowerment, access to food, urgent response to emergencies, nutrition, special issues of low income countries and of the vulnerable.

Novel solutions were proposed, and much conventional wisdom reaffirmed.

Confidence was expressed by the participants that there are solutions available to food security issues which work when countries, donors, civil society and the private sector apply them.

But there was little confidence expressed by these experts that these solutions will be applied in most places because of lack of confidence in leadership; national and international.

IFAD believes that a reformed CFS can contribute to provide the leadership at the international level that is necessary, and that it can help at national level.

There is already considerable effort internationally to improve the coordination between the many agencies involved in food security, including by the Secretary General’s HLTF on food security; for which the Director General FAO is Vice-Chair. It has had some success – coordinating the EC food facility preparing a comprehensive Framework for International Action on Food Security, and coordinating the response by the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions to the increase in global food prices. The CFS can build on this by involving bilateral aid agencies, civil society, farmers groups, and the private sector. Its value added would be to allow wide participation.

IFAD is ready to support the reformed CFS as proposed. Specifically, we appreciate the inclusiveness of the reformed CFS, particularly its’ opening to producers organizations and the private sector. We also support the input into the CFS of expert opinion.

But inclusiveness is also a challenge. For it to work requires a special spirit of cooperation, listening and willingness of members to make this committee something that responds to the needs of countries affected by hunger and food insecurity. The CFS will have to develop new ways of working, ensuring effectiveness and results, while allowing broad participation; a difficult task.

Accountability and transparency will be essential. The CFS can be a powerful instrument for mutual accountability, particularly between countries. At the national level; the second phase part

of the reform, the work of the CFS will be more difficult, but coordinated approaches at the national level are important.

IFAD is looking forward to engage in this reformed CFS as participant, as member of the Secretariat and of the Advisory Committee.

We join WFP in applauding the work to reform the CFS including your efforts in this regard, Madam Chair.

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**APPENDIX H**

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<b>COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY</b>
<b>Thirty-fifth Session</b>
<b>Rome, 14, 15 and 17 October 2009</b>
<b>Agenda Item III</b>
<b>REFORM OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY</b>
<b>FINAL VERSION (CFS: 2009/2 Rev.1)</b>

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## I. CONTEXT

1. The rise in food prices in 2007-08, followed by the financial and economic crisis in 2009, has highlighted the unacceptable levels of structural poverty and hunger around the world. The food and financial crisis threatens global food security and nutrition and the achievement of the 1996 World Food Summit target and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for reducing hunger and malnutrition. It is now estimated that more than a billion people, one in every six human beings may be suffering from under-nourishment. These are mainly small holder food producers, particularly women, and other rural inhabitants.

2. Faced with rising hunger and a weak performing Committee on World Food Security (CFS), Member nations agreed at the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of CFS in October 2008 to embark on a reform of the CFS so that it can fully play its vital role in the area of food security and nutrition, including international coordination. The reforms are designed to redefine the CFS' vision and role to focus on the key challenges of eradicating hunger; expanding participation in CFS to ensure that voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard in the policy debate on food and agriculture; adapt its rules and procedures with the aim to become the central United Nations political platform dealing with food security and nutrition; strengthening its linkages with regional, national and local levels; and supporting CFS discussions with structured expertise through the creation of a High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) so that the decisions and the work of the CFS are based on hard evidence and state of the art knowledge. FAO Council considered "the CFS reform to be crucial to the governance of world food security, with a view toward exploring synergies with the emerging Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition" (CL 136/REP, paragraph 29). CFS reform has been a topic of discussion in several fora including G8, G20 and the UN General Assembly and is on the agenda for the World Summit on Food Security 2009.

### *Concept of Food Security*

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The four pillars of food security are availability, access, utilization and stability. The nutritional dimension is integral to the concept of food security and to the work of CFS.

### *Reform process*

The reform proposals made in this document are the results of deliberations between the CFS Bureau and an open Contact Group established to advise the Bureau on all aspects of CFS reform. This participatory process included representatives from FAO Membership, WFP, IFAD, Bioversity International, the UN-High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis (HLTF), the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, and NGOs/CSOs/private sector.

3. In order to realize this goal and ensure better coordination, CFS Members agreed on three key guiding principles for the reform – inclusiveness, strong linkages to the field to ensure the process is based on the reality on the ground and flexibility in implementation so that CFS can respond to a changing external environment and membership needs. Members agreed that effective implementation of CFS' new roles will be carried out in phases. Starting after the Committee's meeting in mid-October 2009, CFS' activities, particularly in areas of coordination at the global level, policy convergence, facilitated support and advice to countries and regions will be the first to be implemented. While implementing Phase I, CFS will work on better defining the implementation details of other activities. In Phase II, CFS will gradually take on additional roles such as coordination at national and regional levels, promoting accountability and sharing best

practices at all levels and developing a global strategic framework for food security and nutrition (see Section V for proposed implementation plan).

## II. VISION AND ROLE

### A. VISION

4. The CFS is and remains an intergovernmental Committee in FAO. The reformed CFS as a central component of the evolving Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition will constitute 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. The CFS will strive 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.

### B. ROLE

5. The roles of the CFS will be:

*Coordination at global level.* Provide a platform for discussion and coordination to strengthen collaborative action among governments, regional organizations, international organizations and agencies, NGOs, CSOs, food producers' organizations, private sector organizations, philanthropic organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, in a manner that is in alignment with each country's specific context and needs.

*Policy convergence.* Promote greater policy convergence and coordination, including through the development of international strategies and voluntary guidelines on food security and nutrition on the basis of best practices, lessons learned from local experience, inputs received from the national and regional levels, and expert advice and opinions from different stakeholders.

*Support and advice to countries and regions.* At country and/or region request, facilitate support and/or advice in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of their nationally and regionally owned plans of action for the elimination of hunger, the achievement of food security and the practical application of the "Voluntary Guidelines for the Right to Food" that shall be based on the principles of participation, transparency and accountability.

6. In Phase II, the CFS will gradually take on additional roles such as:

- i) *Coordination at national and regional levels.* Serve as a platform to promote greater coordination and alignment of actions in the field, encourage more efficient use of resources and identify resource gaps. As the reform progresses, the CFS will build, as appropriate, on the coordination work of the United Nation's High Level Task Force (HLTF). One guiding principle to support this role will be to build on and strengthen existing structures and linkages with key partners at all levels. Key partners include national mechanisms and networks for food security and nutrition, the UN country teams and other coordination mechanisms such as the International Alliance Against Hunger (IAAH) and its National Alliances, food security thematic groups, regional intergovernmental bodies and a large number of civil society networks and private sector associations operating at the regional and national levels. In each case, the functional contributions they could make, as well as how the CFS could strengthen linkages and enhance synergy with such partners would have to be established.



- ii) *Promote accountability and share best practices at all levels.* One of the main functions of the CFS has been to “monitor actively the implementation of the 1996 World Food Summit Plan of Action” (WFS-PoA). Although countries are taking measures to address food insecurity, the specific programmes as they are presented do not necessarily help to report quantitatively on progress towards realizing the WFS-PoA objectives. The CFS should help countries and regions, as appropriate, address the questions of whether objectives are being achieved and how food insecurity and malnutrition can be reduced more quickly and effectively. This will entail developing an innovative mechanism, including the definition of common indicators, to monitor progress towards these agreed upon objectives and actions taking into account lessons learned from previous CFS and other monitoring attempts<sup>1</sup>. Comments by all CFS stakeholders will have to be taken into account and new mechanisms will build on existing structures.
- iii) *Develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition* in order to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders. The Global Strategic Framework will be flexible so that it can be adjusted as priorities change. It will build upon existing frameworks such as the UN’s Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security.

### III. COMPOSITION, MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION, AND CONSULTATION / COORDINATION MECHANISMS

#### A. COMPOSITION AND MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION

7. The CFS is and remains an intergovernmental Committee. It will be composed of members, participants and observers and will seek to achieve a balance between inclusiveness and effectiveness. Its composition will ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders – particularly those most affected by food insecurity - are heard. It shall further take into account the fact that the overall CFS includes not only an annual global meeting, but also a series of intersessional activities at various levels.

#### B. MEMBERS

8. The **membership** of the Committee shall be open to all Members of FAO, WFP or IFAD, or non-member States of FAO that are member States of the United Nations.

9. Member States are encouraged to participate in Committee sessions at the highest level possible (Ministerial or cabinet level is desirable), insofar as possible representing a common, inter-ministerial governmental position. In those countries where there is a multi-stakeholder, inter-ministerial national body or mechanism concerning food security and nutrition, Member States are encouraged to include its representatives in their delegations to the Committee.

10. Members take part fully in the work of the Committee with the right to intervene in plenary and breakout discussions, approve meeting documents and agendas, submit and present documents and formal proposals, and interact with the Bureau during the inter-sessional period.

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<sup>1</sup> See CFS 2008/3 and CL 135/10, paragraphs 12-13.

Voting and decision taking is the exclusive prerogative of Members, including drafting the final report of CFS Plenary sessions.

### C. PARTICIPANTS

11. The Committee shall be open to **participants** from the following categories of organizations and entities:

- i) Representatives of UN agencies and bodies with a specific mandate in the field of food security and nutrition such as FAO, IFAD, WFP, the HLTF (as a coordinating mechanism of the UN-SG) and representatives of other relevant UN System bodies whose overall work is related to attaining food security, nutrition, and the right to food such as the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN).
- ii) Civil society and non-governmental organizations and their networks with strong relevance to issues of food security and nutrition with particular attention to organizations representing smallholder family farmers, artisanal fisherfolk, herders/pastoralists, landless, urban poor, agricultural and food workers, women, youth, consumers, Indigenous Peoples, and International NGOs whose mandates and activities are concentrated in the areas of concern to the Committee. This group will aim to achieve gender and geographic balance in their representation.
- iii) International agricultural research systems, such as through representatives of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and others.
- iv) International and regional Financial Institutions including World Bank, International Monetary Fund, regional development banks and World Trade Organization (WTO).
- v) Representatives of private sector associations<sup>2</sup> and private philanthropic foundations active in the areas of concern to the Committee.

12. Participants take part in the work of the Committee with the right to intervene in plenary and breakout discussions to contribute to preparation of meeting documents and agendas, submit and present documents and formal proposals. They commit to contribute regularly to inter-sessional activities of the Committee at all levels and interact with the Bureau during the inter-sessional period through the Advisory Group established by the Bureau.

### D. OBSERVERS

13. The Committee or its Bureau may invite other interested organizations relevant to its work to observe entire sessions or on specific agenda items. Such organizations or bodies may also apply to the Committee for **Observer** status to participate regularly, periodically or exceptionally on specific issues subject to the decision of the Committee or its Bureau. Such organizations could include:

- i) Regional associations of countries and regional intergovernmental development institutions;
- ii) Local, national, regional and global CSOs/NGOs, other than those attending as participants, which are active in areas related to food security, nutrition, and the

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<sup>2</sup> Private sector associations represent the positions and interests of the business enterprises and corporations belonging to a particular sector of activity or geographic area.

right to food, particularly organizations which are linked to a regional or global network;

- iii) Other networks or associative organizations including local authorities, foundations and research or technical institutions.

14. Observers at Committee sessions may be invited by the Chair to intervene during discussions.

15. Mechanisms for enhancing the effectiveness of CFS Plenary discussions will be explored, such as that of holding preparatory consultations of regional groups and of Participant constituencies (civil society, private sector, etc.) to define positions and nominate spokespersons. Plenary sessions of the Committee should be organized in a way that are manageable and produce concrete outcomes. There is no limit to the participation by Members. The Bureau will determine the allocation of seats for Participants and Observers in consultation with the CSO/NGO coordination mechanisms. The quota assigned to civil society organizations and NGOs will be such as to ensure their visible and effective participation, equitable geographic representation, with particular attention to the categories of organizations detailed in paragraph 11(ii).

## **E. CONSULTATION/COORDINATION MECHANISMS AND ACTIVITIES**

16. Civil society organizations/NGOs and their networks will be invited to autonomously establish a global mechanism for food security and nutrition which will function as a facilitating body for CSO/NGOs consultation and participation in the CFS. Such mechanisms will also serve inter-sessional global, regional and national actions in which organizations of those sectors of the population most affected by food insecurity, would be accorded priority representation. Civil society organizations/NGOs will submit to the CFS Bureau a proposal regarding how they intend to organize their participation in the CFS in a way that ensures broad and balanced participation by regions and types of organizations keeping in mind the principles approved by the CFS at its Thirty-Fourth Session in October 2008 (CFS: 2008/5; CL 135/10: paragraph 15). The activities of the mechanism will include:

- i) broad and regular exchange of information, analysis and experience;
- ii) developing common positions as appropriate;
- iii) communicating to the CFS and, as appropriate, its Bureau through representatives designated by an internal self-selection process within each civil society category;
- iv) convening a civil society forum as a preparatory event before CFS sessions if so decided by the civil society mechanism.

17. Private sector associations, private philanthropic organizations and other CFS stakeholders active in areas related to food security, nutrition, and the right to food are encouraged to autonomously establish and maintain a permanent coordination mechanism for participation in the CFS and for actions derived from that participation at global, regional and national levels. They are invited to communicate a proposal to that effect to the CFS Bureau.

## **IV. MECHANISMS AND PROCEDURES**

### **A. OVERALL PROCESS AND STRUCTURE**

18. Bearing in mind that CFS will include a Plenary, as well as intersessional activities at different levels, the process of defining strategies and actions to be adopted by Members should be transparent and take into consideration the views of all participants and stakeholders to the

fullest extent possible in order to foster ownership and full participation during implementation of these strategies and actions.

19. The CFS will include:

- i) The Plenary of the CFS
- ii) The CFS Bureau and its Advisory Group
- iii) The High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) - a multi-disciplinary scientific advisory body to the CFS
- iv) The Secretariat serving the CFS (Plenary, Bureau and its Advisory Group, and HLPE)

## **B. THE PLENARY**

20. The Plenary is the central body for decision-taking, debate, coordination, lesson-learning and convergence by all stakeholders at global level on issues pertaining to food security and nutrition and on the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security. It should focus on relevant and specific issues related to food security and nutrition in order to provide guidance and actionable recommendations to assist all stakeholders in eradicating hunger.

21. Regular Plenary Sessions shall be held annually. Extraordinary sessions may be requested by its Members and approved by the Bureau after consultation with CFS Members. The results of the CFS Plenary shall be reported to the FAO Conference and to the UN General Assembly (UNGA) through ECOSOC. The Chair of the CFS should consult with ECOSOC and take all necessary actions so that modalities for meaningful reporting be established and implemented. CFS Participants, including UN and other intergovernmental agencies, NGOs and CSOs are encouraged to consider in their respective governing bodies the outcomes of the CFS which are relevant to their own activities.

22. Any specific recommendations adopted by the Plenary of the CFS which affect the programme or finances and legal or constitutional aspects of concerned UN entities shall be reported to their appropriate bodies for consideration.

## **C. LINKAGES BETWEEN CFS AND THE REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVELS**

23. It is crucial that the work of the CFS is based on the reality on the ground. It will be fundamental for the CFS, through its Bureau and Advisory Group, to nurture and maintain linkages with different actors at regional, sub regional and local levels to ensure on going, two way exchange of information among these stakeholders during intersessional periods. This will ensure that at its annual sessions the Plenary is made aware of latest developments on the ground, and that, conversely, results of the deliberations of the Plenary are widely disseminated at regional, sub-regional and country as well as global levels. Existing linkages should be strengthened, such as through the FAO Regional Conferences, and other regional and sub-regional bodies dealing with food security and nutrition related issues.

24. CFS Members States are encouraged, at their discretion, to constitute or strengthen multi-disciplinary national mechanisms (e.g. food security networks, national alliances, national CFS) including all key stakeholders dedicated to advance food security at national and local levels. Through renewed mobilization and coordination of key stakeholders, such mechanisms will enable more effective identification and implementation of food security and nutrition policies and programmes.

25. Existing structures should be used to ensure programmes are better integrated with each other and aligned with on-going national and local food security and nutrition priorities. This would take advantage of the field presence of stakeholders involved in the CFS. Key partners will include United Nations Country Teams, the United Nation's High Level Task Force (HLTF), the International Alliance against Hunger and its National Alliances, national and regional food security thematic groups, and a large number of civil society networks and private sector associations operating at the regional and national levels.
26. Such mechanisms could contribute to the elaboration of national plans against hunger and assist with the monitoring and evaluation of agreed actions and outcomes designed to combat hunger and food insecurity. They could also be instrumental in informing regional bodies and the CFS Plenary about successes achieved as well as remaining challenges and needs with a view to soliciting guidance and assistance in this regard.
27. Establishing linkages with the country level is likely to be more challenging in countries with weak capacity or in those without a central organization to address food security and nutrition in a multisectoral manner. Nevertheless, it is precisely in such cases that the CFS Plenary should ensure that consultation with and input from the national level takes place. Ways of enabling such linkages need to be found.
28. FAO Regional Conferences and regional meetings of WFP, IFAD and other concerned organizations are encouraged to devote part of their agendas to disseminate CFS conclusions and recommendations and to provide inputs to the CFS. Such regional bodies should, in coordination with the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group, open themselves to the participation of regional representatives of CFS participants and observers, including active participation by relevant regional intergovernmental and CSO organizations and networks, and to regional development institutions. The possibility of the CFS establishing and maintaining contacts through its Bureau to other regional organizations, such as NEPAD/CAADP, MERCOSUR, Arab Organization for Agriculture Development, Community of Independent States, and others, including regional CSO networks, should also be kept open.

#### **D. BUREAU**

29. The CFS Bureau represents the broader membership of the CFS between plenary sessions. It ensures coordination among all actors and levels and advances tasks in preparation for CFS plenary sessions.
30. The Bureau will perform tasks delegated to it by the Plenary including the preparation of documents and proposals such as setting the agenda and sending requests to and receiving inputs from the High Level Panel of Experts. It will facilitate coordination among relevant actors and levels to advance intersessional tasks entrusted to it. The Bureau should also deal with matters related to the implementation of the reform proposed in this document.
31. The Bureau shall be composed of the Chairperson and twelve members, two coming from each of the following geographic regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, and one from both North America and South-West Pacific<sup>3</sup>. The CFS Chairperson, on a rotational basis among regions, and other members of the Bureau shall be elected in CFS Plenary for a term of two years.
32. The Bureau, immediately following its election, will establish an Advisory Group composed of representatives of FAO, WFP and IFAD and other non-Member CFS Participants (see para 11). The Advisory Group will have the same tenure as the Bureau. The Bureau will

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<sup>3</sup> Model recommended for FAO Finance and Programme Committee in the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) that will be approved by the forthcoming session of the Conference. The CFS Chairperson and members will be appointed on ad personam basis.

invite the different constituencies of CFS Participants to designate their representatives to this Group, which normally will not exceed that of the CFS Bureau in numbers. The function of the Advisory Group is to provide input to the Bureau regarding the range of tasks which the CFS Plenary has instructed it to perform. Decision making will be in the hands of the member States. It is expected that members of the Advisory Group should be able to contribute substantive work and provide advice to the CFS Bureau.

### **E. CFS SECRETARIAT**

33. There should be a small, permanent CFS Secretariat located in FAO Rome. Its task will be to assist the Plenary, the Bureau and Advisory Group, and the High Level Panel of Experts in their work.

34. For the biennium 2010-2011, the Secretariat will be headed by a Secretary from FAO and include staff from the other Rome-based agencies (WFP and IFAD). Further arrangements regarding the Secretary, including possible rotation among the three Rome-based agencies, and the inclusion in the Secretariat of other UN entities directly concerned with food security and nutrition, should be decided by the CFS plenary in 2011.

35. The present CFS Secretariat will continue to perform its functions until final decisions of CFS Plenary as per paragraph 34 are adopted and implemented.

## **V. EXPERT INPUT TOWARD REVITALIZED CFS**

### **A. HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (HLPE)**

36. In line with efforts to revitalize the Committee on World Food Security, members called for regular inclusion of structured food security and nutrition-related expertise to better inform its sessions. This effort should help create synergies between world class academic/scientific knowledge, field experience, knowledge from social actors and practical application in various settings. Given the multidisciplinary complexity of food security, the effort is aimed at improving communication and information-sharing among the different stakeholders in food security and nutrition. Its products will focus on better understanding current food insecurity situations and will also look forward toward emerging issues. The expert process will, through Plenary and the Bureau, aim to support CFS members and other stakeholders in designing strategies and programs for addressing food insecurity. Participants in this expert process will utilize and synthesize available research/analyses and add value to the work performed already by numerous agencies, organizations, and academic institutions, among others.

### **B. KEY FUNCTIONS OF HLPE**

37. As directed by the CFS Plenary and Bureau, the HLPE will:

- i) Assess and analyze the current state of food security and nutrition and its underlying causes.
- ii) Provide scientific and knowledge-based analysis and advice on specific policy-relevant issues, utilizing existing high quality research, data and technical studies.
- iii) Identify emerging issues, and help members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas.

### C. STRUCTURE AND MODUS OPERANDI OF HLPE

38. The HLPE will have two main components:
- i) A **Steering Committee** composed of at least 10 and not exceeding 15 internationally recognized experts in a variety of food security and nutrition-related fields.
  - ii) **Ad hoc project teams** constituting a larger subsidiary network of food security and nutrition experts acting on a project-specific basis, selected and managed by the HLPE Steering Committee to analyze/report on specific issues.
39. Led by a Chair and Vice-Chair, elected among the members of the Steering Committee, the HLPE will:
- i) Ensure state-of-the-art studies/analyses for consideration by CFS sessions on a variety of food security and nutrition issues.
  - ii) Assemble expert "project teams" to prepare studies/analyses for CFS sessions.
  - iii) Determine working methodologies and terms of reference for project teams, and manage their work.
  - iv) Normally meet two times per year in Rome and possibly more in extraordinary circumstances, to review work methodologies and prepare work plans/products.
40. Led by a team leader, the time-bound expert "project teams" will be responsible for drafting of studies/analyses under the HLPE Steering Committee direction and oversight.

### D. OUTPUT OF HLPE

41. By request of the CFS Plenary or Bureau, the Steering Committee will provide scientifically sound, clear and concise written reports/analyses for Plenary or inter-sessional purposes.
42. Following its introduction as an item on the agenda by the Bureau and according to the nature and purpose of a project, a report, its conclusions and recommendations could be introduced in CFS Plenary by the Chair of the HLPE Steering Committee in possible conjunction with the head of a specific project team.

### E. COMPOSITION / SELECTION OF THE HLPE

43. The CFS Bureau, in close cooperation with FAO management and drawing from applicable FAO legal texts, will solicit nominations for the HLPE Steering Committee.
- i) The Steering Committee should reflect an assortment of technical disciplines, regional expertise and representation. Ideal candidates will have relevant experience working with cross-disciplinary expert processes.
  - ii) Members of the Steering Committee will participate in their individual capacities, and not as representatives of their respective governments, institutions or organizations.
  - iii) Members of the Steering Committee will serve for a 2-year period, renewable once.
44. The CFS Bureau will designate an ad hoc technical selection committee comprised of representatives from among the Rome-based food/agriculture agencies (FAO, WFP, IFAD, CGIAR/Bioversity, a CSO/NGO rep) to choose the Steering Committee members. The ad hoc technical selection committee will submit its recommendations to the CFS Bureau for approval.

45. Early in 2010, the first 10 members of the HLPE Steering Committee will be selected. The HLPE Steering Committee will then designate its Chair and Co-Chair to begin its work in anticipation of the CFS October 2010 Session, based on explicit instructions from the CFS Bureau. Additional members could be chosen shortly after October 2010 Plenary

46. Members of the HLPE ad-hoc project teams will be chosen by the HLPE Steering Committee notably drawn from a database of experts to which CFS stakeholders can nominate experts at any time.

## **F. SECRETARIAL SERVICES**

47. The joint CFS Secretariat, will assist the work of the HLPE Steering Committee and its Chair. Its functions will include, though are not limited to:

- i) Maintain a roster of experts.
- ii) Organize meetings of the HLPE Steering Committee and assist project teams, as needed.
- iii) Maintain system of communications, including posting of relevant reports/analyses.
- iv) Assist with preparation of working budget and other support documentation.

## **G. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE HLPE STEERING COMMITTEE**

48. Immediately following adoption of this agreement during the October 2009 CFS Plenary, a letter co-signed by the CFS Chair and FAO Director General will be sent to CFS members and others, soliciting nominations for the HLPE Steering Committee. This letter would explain the structure of the new process, and contain the agreed Terms of Reference.

# **VI. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

## **A. LEGAL MATTERS**

49. The extent to which CFS reform proposals would require changes to the General Rules and Regulations of FAO governance aspects such as CFS membership, composition of the Bureau and Secretariat, and reporting arrangements, would require adjustments to legal dimensions of the CFS will be addressed by FAO Legal Counsel once the nature of the proposed changes is established.

## **B. COST AND FUNDING**

50. The cost of a reformed CFS will be influenced by the nature and extent of functions and activities ascribed to it, particularly to its Bureau and Secretariat. Funding implications include considerations such as whether the costs of the new CFS would be shared by the main agencies involved, and to what extent (as per paragraphs 32-34). A preliminary budget and modalities of funding for the next biennium, including the use of voluntary contributions and trust funds for the HLPE, has been prepared by the Bureau and presented to the October plenary session for consideration by Members with a view to gain approval by FAO Conference. Resource mobilization strategies to cover the costs of participation by NGOs/CSOs from developing countries will also need to be addressed, as agreed by the CFS at its Thirty-Fourth Session<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> See CFS:2008/5; CL 135/10; paragraph 15



### C. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

51. Bearing in mind the complexity of the tasks ahead and with a view to improving the effectiveness of CFS, the Committee should focus on tangible outputs and outcomes as well as a roadmap for the progressive attainment of the renewed vision. More specific outcomes will have to be defined by the revitalized CFS in its forthcoming Sessions. It is proposed that, at its next Session, the CFS agrees on a phased and results-based plan to implement reform as outlined in this document. With this in mind, it is suggested that at its 35<sup>th</sup> Session, the CFS be invited to:

	<b>Task</b>	<b>Proposed deadline</b>
1	Approve CFS Reform document	Oct 2009
2	Election of CFS Bureau (paras 29-32)	Oct 2009
3	Bureau to present a draft budget and financing strategy for the reformed CFS including the HLPE (para 50)	Oct 2009
4	Call for nominations to the HLPE Steering Committee (para 48)	Oct 2009
5	Legal Office to finalize changes to the General Rules of FAO and the Rules of Procedure of the CFS (para 49)	Nov 2009
6	Bureau to designate the ad-hoc technical selection committee for HLPE Steering Committee members (para 46)	Nov 2009
7	Bureau to establish an Advisory Group (para 32)	Jan 2010
8	Make arrangements to establish a Secretariat (paras 33-35)	Jan 2010
9	Designate the HLPE Steering Committee members (para 44)	Jan 2010
10	First joint meeting of the HLPE Steering Committee and CFS Bureau and Secretariat to discuss areas requiring advice from the HLPE and agree on a timetable for delivery (para 45)	Feb 2010
11	Bureau to develop a work programme through a consultative process	Apr 2010
12	Bureau to submit a proposal for a work programme including implementation of (some parts of) Phase II, to the 36 <sup>th</sup> Session of CFS	Oct 2010

52. The Committee may wish to endorse this document and entrust the Bureau to proceed with implementation as outlined above.