



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Forty-fourth Session

"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"

Rome, Italy, 9-13 October 2017

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CFS MAIN POLICY PRODUCTS AND OTHER CFS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS - WITH DRAFT DECISION

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the document CFS 2017/44/11 "Monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products and other CFS policy recommendations", presented by Mr. Robert Sabiiti (Uganda), Chair of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Monitoring.

The Committee:

- a) Expresses its appreciation for the work of the OEWG on Monitoring and reiterates the importance of the monitoring function for CFS;
- b) Endorses the document (CFS 2017/44/11) that outlines the approach to monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products, in accordance with CFS 43 decisions (CFS 2016/43 Final Report and CFS 2016/43/7), and CFS other policy recommendations, as follows:
 - CFS main policy products through holding a Global Thematic Event in Plenary every two years; and
 - Other CFS policy recommendations through holding events on an ad hoc basis, considering the relevance and potential contribution of monitoring these recommendations to the global food security and nutrition agenda and resource availability. The events will be organized during the Plenary week or the intersessional period depending inter alia on specific objectives and the timeframe for contributing to the global agenda.

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- c) Agrees to hold the next three Global Thematic Events during CFS 45, CFS 47 and CFS 49, respectively to share experiences and take stock of the use and application of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security in 2018, the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis in 2020, and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems in 2022;
- d) Requests the Bureau in consultation with the Advisory Group, and the OEWG on monitoring in a one-off meeting, to oversee the preparation of the Global Thematic Event in plenary in 2018 and of events organized for monitoring the other CFS policy recommendations during the plenary week or the intersessional periods, subject to resource availability;
- e) Recognizes the importance of following up on previous decisions of CFS on monitoring in the context of the CFS evaluation Plan of Action, subject to resource availability; and
- f) Recognizes that the need for and role of the OEWG on monitoring may be reconsidered in light of the decisions of the Committee related to the follow-up to the independent evaluation of CFS.

I. BACKGROUND

1. At CFS 43 in October 2016, the Committee recommended that the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Monitoring continues its work in 2017 to agree on how to continue monitoring the implementation of CFS products on a regular basis, drawing lessons from the first Global Thematic Event (GTE) held at CFS 43^{1, 2}.
2. CFS Plenary also endorsed at CFS 43 the “Terms of Reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events at national, regional and global levels” (TORs)³ that will serve as a framework for CFS stakeholders to contribute inputs to GTEs through country-owned and country-led events.
3. The OEWG expressed its satisfaction with the CFS 43 GTE and its support to continue to organize GTEs during plenaries for taking stock of experiences and good practices concerning the use and application of CFS products. Areas of improvement included:
 - More time to prepare for the events, allowing interaction with stakeholders at national and regional levels in line with the approach recommended in the TORs endorsed in October 2016. This will require establishing a multiyear planning for GTEs.
 - Focus of monitoring not only on the main policy products but also on other CFS policy recommendations that are relevant to the global agenda.
 - A more participatory approach for the preparation of the GTEs.

¹ CFS 2016/43, Para 25.

² The first GTE aimed at sharing experiences and taking stock of the use and application of the VGGT. The specific objectives of the GTE were to:

- Foster the adoption, adaptation and scaling up of good practices and learning from experience in the application of the VGGT;
- Monitor progress in implementing the VGGT at national, regional and global levels; and
- Increase awareness and understanding of the VGGT.

³ CFS 2016/43/7.

A. Monitoring the implementation of CFS main policy products

4. Monitoring will focus on the main policy products, in line with CFS Plenary decision⁴. As at March 2017, there were five CFS main policy products of which four are considered for monitoring, as the OEWG recognized that the Global Strategic Framework (GSF) could not be monitored as a single product:

- The Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (RtF) endorsed in 2004;
- The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) endorsed in 2012;
- The Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) endorsed in 2014; and
- The Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (FFA) endorsed in 2015.

5. The TORs foresee that countries will take the lead in organizing multistakeholder events with possible support from the Rome-based Agencies (RBA) or other CFS stakeholders. National actors, who plan to organize national or regional events to prepare for the GTE and review progress in achieving national objectives in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, might approach partners for technical and financial support. CFS stakeholders are encouraged to promote the events and assist in organizing them.

Frequency for Global Thematic Events

6. A GTE will be held every two years, which allows sufficient time for carrying out a comprehensive stocktaking exercise with the involvement of countries and regions, in line with the guidance provided in the TORs. The results of the national and regional events will inform the preparation of the GTE.

Preparation of Global Thematic Events in Plenary

7. The call for inputs to countries and regions will be issued in March of the year before the Plenary to provide sufficient time for comprehensive stocktaking with the involvement of countries and regions. For instance, the call for inputs for the GTE of CFS 47 in October 2020 will be issued in March 2019.

II. MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER CFS POLICY PRODUCTS

8. The decision to monitor specific policy recommendations will be taken by the Bureau⁵, after consultation with the Advisory Group, considering the relevance and potential contribution of monitoring these recommendations to the global food security and nutrition agenda and resource availability. The full list of CFS policy recommendations is provided in Annex. Contributions are intended to promote CFS and the use and application of CFS recommendations.

9. Experiences and good practices in using and applying the selected CFS policy recommendations will be shared during events that will be organized during the Plenary week (within Plenary e.g. through panel discussions or aside Plenary e.g. through one-day side events devoted to the

⁴ CFS 2013/40, Para 66.

⁵ As part of the role of the Bureau in preparing for the Plenary sessions and facilitating intersessional work.

monitoring of the selected recommendations) or during the intersessional period, depending inter alia on specific objectives and the timeframe for contributing to the global agenda.

10. The process for the preparation of the event for monitoring the selected policy recommendations will be lighter than for the main policy products. The experiences in implementing the selected policy recommendations that will be shared during the event will be identified with the support of member countries and a dedicated Technical Task Team (TTT) whose members will draw from their organizations' respective expertise and professional networks, ensuring participation, inclusiveness and regional representation.

Annex: List of CFS policy recommendations:

Land tenure and international investments in agriculture (CFS 37: 2011)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Price volatility and food security (CFS 37: 2011)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Gender, food security and nutrition (CFS 37: 2011)

[Policy Recommendations](#)

How to increase food security and smallholder sensitive investments in agriculture (CFS 37: 2011)

[Policy Recommendations](#)

Social protection for food security (CFS 39: 2012)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Food security and climate change (CFS 39: 2012)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (CFS 40: 2013)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Biofuels and food security (CFS 40: 2013)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (CFS 41, 2014)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems (CFS 41, 2014)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 42, 2015)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)

Connecting Smallholders to Markets (CFS 43, 2016)

[Policy Recommendations](#)

Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? (CFS 43, 2016)

[Policy Recommendations | HLPE Report](#)