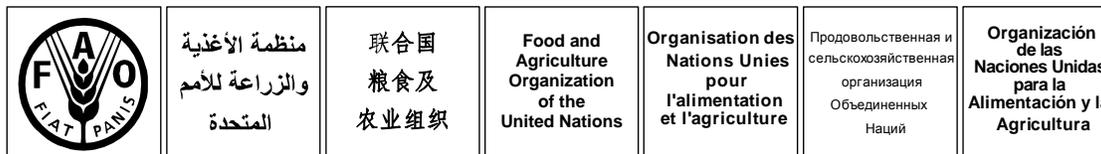


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FAO Regional Conference for Africa

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Brazzaville, Congo, 23-27 April 2012

UPDATE ON THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

I. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

1. The purpose of this document is to present the FAO Regional Conferences (RC) with the main activities and outcomes of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) since this Regional Conference last met, to recall the importance of strengthening linkages between the RCs and CFS, and to make a proposal in this regard.

2. The key features of CFS reform and the potential for strengthening the linkages between the RCs and CFS were presented at all the RCs in 2010¹. The documents presented were intended to support the vision and renewed role of CFS. As part of the FAO renewal process, it was considered opportune for the RCs to consider how they could contribute more effectively to national, regional and global food security and its governance, and to identify priority areas for action, within the framework of the reformed CFS. Since CFS reform, considerable progress has been made towards implementing the roles and vision of the Committee especially regarding:

- Inclusiveness. Participation in CFS has been expanded to ensure that voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard in the debate on food security and nutrition. An expanded Bureau, and an Advisory Group made up of representatives of wide ranging non-government stakeholders, work throughout the year on priorities identified by the Committee. Their work is supported by a joint Secretariat comprised of FAO, WFP and IFAD.
- Structured independent expertise. The CFS Reform established a High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE), which provides high quality evidence-based analysis and advice on policy relevant matters at the request of the Committee

3. As outlined in section II, during 2010-2011 a rich programme of intersessional activities was conducted to address a demanding list of priorities set by CFS. The final reports of CFS36 and CFS37 are provided in the Annexes to show the range of recommendations made during CFS Plenaries. The 37th CFS Plenary Session requested that two key activities of the Committee be discussed at the Regional Conferences: the “Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)”, and “Mapping Food Security and Nutrition Actions at Country Level”. These items will be discussed in

¹ Ref: The Role of FAO Regional Conferences in the Reformed Committee on World Food Security (CFS), e.g., LARC/10/7; ARC/10/3; etc. also CFS REFORM Document CFS:2009/2 rev1.

multi-stakeholder sessions and side-events and separate background documents are available to guide the discussions. The objective is to strengthen the linkages between CFS and the RCs, foster coordination and policy coherence between global and regional and national levels, and ensure that the work of CFS is based on the reality on the ground and that the voices of all regional and national stakeholders are heard. Section III addresses ways to strengthen linkages between RCs and CFS, and a recommendation in this regard is made in section IV.

II. MAIN ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES OF CFS IN 2011-2012

4. The agendas for the 36th and 37th CFS Plenary sessions were developed around the key roles of the Committee: global coordination, policy convergence, and facilitating support and advice to countries and regions. The final reports of both sessions are included in Annexes 1 and 2.

5. A Results-based Framework for CFS (RBF) was developed during 2010-2011 by a Bureau-led Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Programme of Work and Priorities, and was endorsed at CFS 37. The OEWG subsequently used this framework to prioritise its actions, to demonstrate the links between these activities and their intended outcomes, and measure the progress and impact of CFS work. In this section, activities are presented according to the major outcomes from the 37th session.

Outcome 1: Global coordination of food security and nutrition actions by stakeholders is enhanced.

Development of a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)

6. One of the key tasks of the reformed CFS is to “...develop a Global Strategic Framework (GSF) for food security and nutrition in order to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders”. The purpose of the GSF is to provide a dynamic instrument to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders in support of global, regional and country-led actions to prevent future food crises, eliminate hunger and ensure food security and nutrition for all human beings. The First Version of the GSF is to be presented to the CFS Plenary in October 2012. It is intended to consolidate previous, already agreed decisions and recommendations of CFS, reflect common denominators in some areas not yet contemplated within CFS by leveraging existing frameworks and highlight for further development areas and gaps in policy convergence which may be addressed in future versions. A multi-stakeholder session will be held in conjunction with each FAO Regional Conference to raise the awareness of national and regional stakeholders on the GSF, and to ensure that different regional perspectives are incorporated in the First Version.

Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) terminology options paper

7. CFS 37 requested that an options paper on the meaning and different uses, if any, of the terms “Food Security”, “Food Security and Nutrition”, “Food and Nutrition Security” and “Nutrition Security” be presented to the Plenary to improve overall understanding and coordination among stakeholders, and to provide a standardized and consensual terminology [see para 43 in Annex 1]. The paper is currently in preparation.

Support to strengthen linkages with regional and global initiatives

8. Ongoing global and regional initiatives will be presented at CFS Plenary and strengthened linkages with CFS will be sought, for example, with FAO RCs, ECOSOC, Rio+20, G20 and others. The CFS Chair may also attend key high-level global fora to promote coordination and present CFS recommendations.

Outcome 2: Policy convergence is strengthened among stakeholders on key food security and nutrition issues.

Reports of the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition

9. During CFS 37, the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) presented its first reports, on “Land Tenure and International Investments in Agriculture²” and “Price Volatility and Food Security³”. These reports fed into two policy round tables on these topics.

10. Two further studies are currently being prepared by the HLPE for the October 2012 session, one on “Social Protection and Food Security” and another on “Climate Change and Food Security”. The HLPE has also been requested to include in its work plan, for expected publication in 2013, studies on constraints to smallholder investment and on biofuels and food security.

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VG GT)

11. The VG GT are intended to serve as a reference and to provide guidance to improve the governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests with the goal of achieving food security for all and supporting the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. The Committee recognized the urgent need to finalize the negotiations on the VG GT, and has maintained this as a top priority. Negotiating sessions were held in July and October 2011 and another round of negotiations scheduled for 5 to 9 March 2012 is expected to finalize the Guidelines for approval by a special CFS session in May 2012.

Responsible agricultural investment principles

12. An OEWG was established to propose a consultation process within CFS to prepare principles for responsible agricultural investment. The purpose is to offer policy guidance and a common understanding for governments, international organizations, investors and other stakeholders to ensure that investments in agriculture have a positive (or at least neutral) impact on food security and nutrition. In order to ensure consistency and complementarity with the VG GT, it was agreed that the consultation process should start after approval of the VG GT. It was also agreed that the first step in this consultation will be to develop terms of reference outlining the scope, purpose, intended recipients and the structure as well as the format of the process, taking into account existing frameworks.

13. Governments and other stakeholders were encouraged to report to the Committee on actions being taken to align international and domestic private and public investment in agriculture with food security concerns, and to share lessons learned from national experiences.

High-Level Experts Forum on Addressing Food Insecurity in Protracted Crises

14. The Committee approved a proposal to organize a High-Level Expert Forum (HLEF) on Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises. The purpose of the Forum is to provide an opportunity for consultation and policy dialogue to increase understanding and strengthen collaborative efforts to deal appropriately with food security and nutrition in protracted crises. An extensive consultation process on the outcomes of the forum will be held with a view to elaborating an “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises” for consideration by CFS Plenary. The HLEF will take place mid-September 2012.

² HLPE, 2011. Land tenure and international investments in agriculture. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome 2011. Available in all FAO official languages at www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe.

³ HLPE, 2011. Price volatility and food security. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome 2011. Available in all FAO official languages at www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe.

Round table on hunger estimates

15. A round table on Monitoring Food Security was held in September 2011 to discuss state-of-the-art methods for analysing and quantifying food insecurity, and to seek agreement on future directions for research and policy analysis. CFS37 endorsed the key findings and recommendations, and requested the Secretariat to report to it on progress concerning these recommendations.

Reporting on the state of implementation of CFS policy recommendations:

16. The aim is to provide a system for the follow-up and monitoring of implementation of CFS recommendations on policy convergence. In 2011, three topics were addressed in CFS:

- Food price volatility;
- Smallholder-sensitive investments in agriculture;
- Gender, food security and nutrition.

17. Apart from the monitoring the implementation of CFS recommendations, specific activities will be conducted, including:

- Engagement with UN Women
- update on AMIS and link with its Rapid Response Forum
- Update on actions and activities regarding food reserves;

Update on the state of the drafting of a voluntary code of conduct for humanitarian food reserves management.

Outcome 3: National and regional food security and nutrition actions are strengthened as a result of CFS actions.

Mapping Food Security and Nutrition Action at Country Level

18. Efforts to improve the mapping of food security and nutrition actions at country level were continued during 2011 including a Technical Consultative Workshop in May. The outcomes were reported to CFS37 and were supported by lessons learned from five country case studies. As part of the efforts of CFS to support food security and nutrition governance at regional level, the Committee also recommended that the process of mapping food security and nutrition actions be considered during the FAO RCs in 2012, and outcomes of the discussion be presented during the October 2012 Session of CFS

National and regional invitees to CFS Sessions

19. Invitations were extended to representatives of stakeholder groups at national and regional levels to share lessons learned, best practices and country case studies during CFS Plenary sessions.

Discussions on CFS-related topics at the FAO Regional Conferences

20. The FAO RCs offer an opportunity to exchange information and advice on issues of concern on food security and nutrition at regional and national levels.

III. CFS AND THE FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCES

21. According to the CFS reform document: “It will be fundamental for CFS, through its Bureau and Advisory Group, to nurture and maintain linkages with different actors at regional, sub-regional and local levels to ensure ongoing, 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”.

22. In pursuit of this goal, CFS explored different ways to enhance linkages with regional food security and nutrition initiatives and to foster their active engagement in the CFS processes. This included presentations of regional initiatives at CFS Plenary Sessions, participation in regional meetings, including CAADP and ASEAN, and in the 2010 RCs.

23. At the 2010 RCs, CFS organized multi-stakeholder side events on possible ways to strengthen linkages between the RCs and the reformed CFS, and the CFS Chair dedicated his statement at the Ministerial Meeting to presenting the key features of the CFS reform and the main outcomes of the side event.

24. Ways to strengthen linkages with CFS were identified by RCs in 2010. These include the multi-stakeholder initiative Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean in LARC; the Working Party on Women and the Family in Rural Development in ERC; effective involvement of civil society as well as trade and industry, with a preference for existing food security forums in the region to better connect CFS with regional activities, in APRC; and, the organization of a multi-stakeholder workshop on Food Security and Nutrition in NERC which proposed the establishment of a regional CFS-type platform to monitor food security in the region and enable policy practitioners to share information, good practices and lessons learned.

25. The ARC in 2010 supported the proposal for the creation of a regional ad hoc steering group in support of the CFS reform, to be led by the standing Chair of the Regional Conference for Africa, who would work in collaboration with voluntary Members. This steering group would conduct initial consultations at sub-regional level and make proposals at the 36th Session of CFS in October 2010 on the involvement of regional, sub-regional and other bodies in the multi-stakeholder process. It would also develop and present a draft document with proposals for a cost-effective south-south cooperation initiative to strengthen national and regional institutions for food security governance, as proposed by the CFS Chair.

IV. CONCLUSION

26. In conclusion, ARC may wish to consider holding a Regional Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on Food Security and Nutrition in 2013 to, for example, address:

- ways to strengthen linkages between ARC and CFS particularly during intersessional periods (see para 25)
- modalities to include CFS matters as standing agenda items for future ARCs, allowing adequate time for multi-stakeholder forums and side events to ensure that voices of all stakeholders are heard
- ways to monitor progress in implementing key decisions concerning food security and nutrition, and relevant successes and challenges, taken during ARCs.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: FINAL REPORT CFS 36th SESSION

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. The Committee on World Food Security held its Thirty-sixth Session from 11 to 14 and 16 October 2010 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The Session was attended by delegates from 126 Members of the Committee by participants from 11 United Nations Agencies and Programmes; 47 international non-governmental organizations; and observers from 15 intergovernmental organizations and other international non-governmental organizations.
2. 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. Ms Yukiko Omura, Vice-President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) made a statement on behalf of Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which is attached as Appendix G. Mr David Nabarro, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition, made a statement on behalf of the UN Secretary-General, which is attached as Appendix H. Prof. **Monkombu Sambasivan Swaminathan**, Chairman of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) Steering Committee, made a statement, which is attached as Appendix I. The full list of participants is available from the CFS Secretariat.
3. The Session was opened by Mr Noel De Luna as Chairperson.
4. The Committee appointed a Drafting Committee composed of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Paraguay, USA, under the chairmanship of Mr Ibrahim Abu Atileh (Jordan).
5. The Committee was informed that the European Union was participating in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article II of the FAO Constitution.

II. SETTING THE STAGE FOR CFS 36th SESSION

6. Opening statements delivered by the Director-General of FAO, Mr Jacques Diouf, Ms Josette Sheeran, WFP Executive Director, Ms Yukiko Omura, Vice-President of IFAD on behalf of Mr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD, Mr David Nabarro, Coordinator of the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis (HLTF) on behalf of the UN Secretary-General and Prof. Monkombu Sambasivan Swaminathan are attached as appendixes.
7. The CFS Chair made a presentation on the implementation of the CFS reform process carried out through 2009-2010.

III. THE STATE OF FOOD INSECURITY (SOFI) 2010

8. The Committee considered a presentation by Mr Hafez Ghanem, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department, FAO on "An overview of food insecurity in the world".

9. The Committee agreed that:
- the reduction in world hunger is welcome but global hunger is still unacceptably high;
 - projected hunger reduction in 2010 is the result of the reversal of the high food prices and global economic crises but structural hunger is increasing;
 - recent developments related to extreme weather events in different parts of the world may jeopardize further progress;
 - the level of hunger and food insecurity is of particular concern for low-income food-deficit countries, and
 - a Round Table to review methods used to estimate the number of hungry would be arranged during 2011 by the CFS Bureau assisted by the Secretariat.

IV. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

10. The Chairperson noted the purpose of this session was to share information and explore how existing global initiatives can maximize synergies among each other and with CFS with a view to promoting greater coherence and impact.
11. The Committee welcomed presentations of five initiatives:
- i) overview of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Summit by Ms Annika Söder, Assistant Director General, Office of Corporate Communication and External Relations, FAO;
 - ii) update on the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI), including tracking commitments and mapping country activities, by Mr Christopher MacLennan, Director General, Thematic and Sectoral Policy Directorate, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA);
 - iii) update on the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP), the UN High Level Task Force on the Food Crisis (HLTF) and the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA) by Mr David Nabarro, Coordinator HLTF;
 - iv) update on the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), especially the recent reform, by Mr Carlos Perez Del Castillo, Chair of the CGIAR Consortium Board, and
 - v) update on the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN), and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) initiative, by Mr Alexander Muller, Chair of the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition.
12. The Committee decided to:
- include the SCN into the Advisory Group of the CFS in addition to the present Advisory Group members, taking into account SCN's special nature as a UN coordination mechanism and platform in its own right, with its own stakeholder consultation mechanisms;
 - entrust the CFS Bureau with looking into ways to invite and include the SCN or one of its member organizations in the Joint Secretariat of the CFS;
 - suggest that the SCN works in coordination with the CFS to establish synergy and close coordination between their respective processes, mechanisms and proposals.
13. The Committee decided to invite submission of progress reports on these and other key initiatives to future sessions of the CFS.

V. REGIONAL INITIATIVES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

14. The Chairperson noted the purpose of this session was for the Committee to build, strengthen and maintain linkages with relevant actors at all levels and to ensure that its work is based on the reality on the ground.

15. The Committee welcomed presentations of nine regional initiatives and fora: the FAO Regional Conference for Africa (ARC); the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC); the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) Initiative on Food Security; the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting on Food Security; the Pacific Food Summit on behalf of the Food Secure Pacific Working Group (FSPWG); the "Hunger Free Latin America and The Caribbean 2025 Initiative"; the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming of MERCOSUR (REAF) and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) Initiative for Food Security.

16. The Committee recognized the importance of the following points that emerged from the discussion:

- i) food security and nutrition are cross-cutting issues which require a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder framework at the national and the regional level;
- ii) regional initiatives add value and support national efforts in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition;
- iii) regional and inter-regional cooperation provides a valid tool for sharing knowledge and best practices as well as enhancing South-South cooperation;
- iv) mobilization of required resources to operationalize regional frameworks is a key pre-requisite.

17. The Committee decided to build, strengthen and maintain linkages with such initiatives and fora in the intersessional period.

18. The Committee welcomed the offers from the regional initiatives to support communication with the CFS over the intersessional period including the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative 2025, and through the Chairmanship of the FAO Africa and the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Conferences as well as APRC and ASEAN Secretariat.

VI. OVERVIEW BY THE CHAIR OF COUNTRY REQUESTS TO THE CFS

19. The Chairperson noted that no country requests have been submitted to his attention. He also proposed that for the 37th Session of the CFS, this agenda item could be used to offer countries the chance to present their current and planned activities for development partnerships in the area of food security and nutrition. Opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation could also be explored under this agenda item.

VII. NATIONAL INITIATIVES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION – CASE STUDIES

20. The Committee welcomed the presentation of four country case studies to (a) enable countries to identify common themes and best practices to improve food security and (b) ways for the reformed CFS to strengthen its support to those food security and nutrition initiatives. The topics and presenting countries included: "A Comprehensive approach to food security: the National Food Policy Plan of Action" (Bangladesh); "CAADP from the perspective of a country" (Rwanda); "Achieving food security in protracted crisis" (Haiti); "Best practices in safety nets, nutrition and their links to supporting local production" (Jordan).

21. All four case studies clearly referred to the CFS as the platform capable of bringing to light country level needs in the areas of technical cooperation, capacity building and resource mobilization.

Common features regarding national approaches to addressing food security and nutrition arising from the four case studies included:

- a) a comprehensive approach to food security and nutrition;
- b) strong coordination, cooperation and joint planning among ministries;
- c) constructing and financing viable safety nets ;
- d) capacity building and training;
- e) gender Mainstreaming;
- f) South-South cooperation.

22. The CFS requested the Secretariat to elaborate a document to be forwarded to the next session of the CFS that would include a consolidation and analysis of lessons learnt and suggestions with respect to further case studies that could complement these lessons.

VIII. POLICY ROUNDTABLES

23. The Committee welcomed the outcomes from three policy round tables on the following topics: (i) “Addressing food insecurity in protracted crises: Issues and Challenges”; (ii) “Land tenure and international investment in agriculture”; and, (iii) “Managing vulnerability and risk to promote better food security and nutrition”. The following are the outcomes of the Committee’s deliberations:

Addressing food insecurity in protracted crises

24. Bearing in mind that issues related to conflict resolution go beyond the CFS mandate, the Committee endorsed the spirit of the three recommendations contained in the background document:

- i) support further analysis and deeper understanding of people’s livelihoods and coping mechanisms in protracted crises in order to strengthen their resilience and enhance the effectiveness of assistance programmes;
- ii) support the protection, promotion and rebuilding of livelihoods, and the institutions that support and enable livelihoods, in countries in protracted crisis;
- iii) examine the procedures for external assistance to countries in protracted crisis to match the needs, challenges and institutional constraints on the ground taking into consideration best practices.

25. More specifically the CFS recommended:

- i) adopting a comprehensive approach to food security in protracted crises encompassing both emergency response and support to sustainable livelihoods;
- ii) that the UN system promotes better coordinated multi-stakeholder participation in the development and implementation of country led, comprehensive plans of action in a small number of countries affected by protracted crises;
- iii) developing mechanisms to engage local organizations in strengthening key institutions (i.e. markets, social kinships);
- iv) establishing mechanisms for stronger partnerships and collaboration with regional institutions;
- v) supporting mechanisms for consultation and policy dialogue to increase understanding and collaborative efforts to deal with food and nutrition security in protracted crises. In that regard the Bureau in consultation with the Advisory Group will explore the possibility of organizing a High-Level Expert Forum on Protracted Crises no later than 2012 with a view of discussing the elaboration of a new Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises in collaboration with other specialized agencies and humanitarian partners;

- vi) that an addendum to the SOFI be published with a revised table 2 to include all countries and territories in protracted crises and that the list be expanded to include the Palestinian Territories⁴, West Bank and Gaza strip.

Land tenure and international investment in agriculture

26. The Committee:

- i) encouraged the continuation of the inclusive process for the development of the Voluntary Guidelines (Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and Other Natural Resources – VG) building on existing regional processes with a view to submitting the guidelines for the consideration of the 37th session of CFS and decided to establish an open-ended working group of the CFS to review the first draft of the voluntary guidelines;
- ii) taking note of the ongoing process of developing Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments that Respect Rights, Livelihoods and Resources (RAI), and, in line with its role, decided to start an inclusive process of consideration of the principles within the CFS;
- iii) urged governments and other stakeholders involved in the drafting process of both the VG and the RAI to ensure consistency and complementarity between the two processes;
- iv) requested the HLPE to undertake studies, to be presented at the 37th Session of the CFS, on the following important issues, in accordance with the CFS reform document agreed in 2009, and the Rules and Procedures for the work of the HLPE:
 - the respective roles of large-scale plantations and of small-scale farming, including economic, social, gender and environmental impacts;
 - review of the existing tools allowing the mapping of available land;
 - comparative analysis of tools to align large scale investments with country food security strategies
- v) encouraged member state support for capacity building toward effectively addressing land governance.

Managing vulnerability and risk to promote better food security and nutrition

27. The Committee requested HLPE to undertake studies, to be presented at the 37th session of the CFS, on the following important issues, in accordance with the CFS Reform Document agreed in 2009 and the Rules and Procedures for the Work of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition:

- i) ***Price volatility:*** all of its causes and consequences, including market distorting practices and links to financial markets, and appropriate and coherent policies, actions, tools and institutions to manage the risks linked to excessive price volatility in agriculture. This should include prevention and mitigation for vulnerable producers, and consumers, particularly the poor, women and children, that are appropriate to different levels (local, national, regional and international) and are based on a review of existing studies. The study should consider how vulnerable nations and populations can ensure access to food when volatility causes market disruptions.
- ii) ***Social protection:*** ways to lessen vulnerability through social and productive safety nets programs and policies with respect to food and nutritional security, taking into consideration differing conditions across countries and regions. This should include a review of the impact of existing policies for the improvement of living conditions and resilience of vulnerable populations, especially small scale rural producers, urban and rural poor as well as women and children. It should also take into account benefits for improving local production and livelihoods and promoting better nutrition.

⁴ Members of the Near East Group and some members of the Committee expressed their reservation to not referring to “Occupied Palestinian Territories” as per agreed terminology in the UN system.

- iii) *Climate change*: review existing assessments and initiatives on the effects of climate change on food security and nutrition, with a focus on the most affected and vulnerable regions and populations and the interface between climate change and agricultural productivity, including the challenges and opportunities of adaptation and mitigation policies and actions for food security and nutrition.

28. The CFS Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group and Secretariat, shall determine how best to take forward the process of developing recommendations or options for the 37th Session of CFS.

IX. GLOBAL COORDINATION FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL PROCESSES

A. DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

29. The Secretariat introduced document CFS: 2010/2 Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition – A Concept Note. The Committee agreed to launch a consultative and inclusive process to be conducted by the cfs bureau with the assistance of the joint secretariat and in close collaboration with the advisory group and involvement of all stakeholders, with the aim to develop the first version of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) by October 2012, which will be subject to regular updates reflecting the outcomes and recommendations of the CFS. The first step of this inclusive consultation process will be to find agreement on gsf purposes, basic principles and structure, taking into account existing frameworks. During the process, the HLPE may provide input on priority issues identified by the CFS.

B. MAPPING FOOD SECURITY ACTIONS AT COUNTRY LEVEL

30. The Secretariat introduced document CFS: 2010/3 *Mapping Food Security Actions at Country Level*. The Committee agreed to:

- endorse the proposed development and implementation plan contained in this document;
- encourage interested stakeholders to participate in the further development of the initiative at country level;
- request the Secretariat to continue facilitating, and with the support of stakeholders in the CFS Advisory Group, the development and implementation plan contained in this document as one of the core activities of the CFS 2010/11 work programme with a view to providing an update of the process, including experiences from countries, at the CFS session in 2011;
- recommend that 4 to 6 national governments present the results of mapping at the CFS session in 2011 and inform discussions on national actions and investments, lessons learnt, good practice and the benefits thereof, and the need for international assistance.

31. The Committee underlined that the mapping initiative should also consider actions related to nutrition.

X. THE WAY FORWARD FOR CFS – THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REFORM

32. The Committee acknowledged the document CFS:2010/9 “Proposal for an International Food Security and Nutrition Civil Society Mechanism for Relations with CFS”, and encouraged other stakeholders to proceed along the same lines.

33. The Committee endorsed the recommendation contained in document CFS:2010/4 “Revised Rules of Procedure” that at the end of 2010 and throughout 2011, a Bureau Working Group continue to review and revise the CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule XXXIII of the GRO and the FAO Constitution,

in light of the Reform Document (CFS:2009/2 Rev.2) and according to the process and timetable proposed in Section III of the document.

34. In addition, the Committee agreed that in the transitional period until October 2011, the existing Rules of Procedure and Article XXXIII of the General Rules of the Organization can only be applied in so far as those rules are in full conformity with the text and spirit of the CFS Reform Document⁵.

35. The Secretariat introduced document CFS:2010/5 “CFS Programme Work and Budget”. The Committee:

- endorsed the PWB for 2010-2011;
- recommended that the proposed 2012-2013 PWB be further reviewed by the Bureau;
- decided to submit them to the consideration of FAO, IFAD and WFP in accordance with their respective financial rules and regulations;
- endorsed the proposal to develop a results-based framework for CFS that is consistent with the organizational priorities of the Rome Based Agencies (and others) in the shape of a detailed MYPOW (Multi-year Programme of Work) to be preferably presented at the 37th session of the CFS in 2011.

⁵ The Committee took note of the position of the Representative of the Legal Counsel of FAO reflected in paragraph 6 of document CFS:2010/4 with respect to Article XXXIII of General Rules of the Organization.

ANNEX II

FINAL REPORT CFS 37TH SESSION

Executive Summary

In its second Session since reform, the CFS addressed nine agenda items corresponding to the roles of the Committee and to further implement its reform. Organizational matters were dealt with in item I. In item II, opening statements were heard from the heads of the three Rome Based Agencies, the United Nations Secretary General and the chair of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) Steering Committee. In addition, the essence of SOFI 2011 was presented by the Assistant Director General, ES Department. The Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Land Tenure, Fisheries and Forests (VGLT) were addressed in item III. Item IV included updates on global and regional initiatives. In item V, seven sessions were devoted to three round tables seeking policy recommendations on topics central to food security and nutrition. In item VI, ways to strengthen global coordination and national processes were addressed including mapping food security and nutrition actions, progress made in preparing a Global Strategic Framework for Food security and Nutrition, and methods to estimate the number of hungry. Item VII was devoted to implementing CFS reform including changes to the Rules of Procedure and preparing a result based framework and a Multi-year Programme of Work and Budget for the Committee. In item VIII, other matters such as update on implementation of CFS decisions, a proposal to enhance private sector participation in the Committee, arrangements for CFS 38, and the election of a Chair and the new composition of the Bureau for 2012-2013, were addressed. The report of the Session was adopted in item IX.

Suggested Action by the Council

The Council is invited to acknowledge the outcomes of the 37th Session of CFS, where the Committee:

- 1) Mandated the CFS-Bureau to call for an additional negotiation session with the intent of finalising the VGLT as soon as possible (para. 15);
- 2) Requested the HLPE to include in its plans for future work, taking into account available resources, a comparative study of constraints to smallholder investment in agriculture in different contexts with policy options to address these constraints (para. 29. vii.);
- 3) Supported an inclusive consultation process within CFS for the development and the broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhance food security and nutrition (para. 29. ix.);
- 4) Requested the Bureau to propose options on the meaning and different uses, if any, of the terms “Food Security”, “Food Security and Nutrition”, “Food and Nutrition Security” and “Nutrition Security” (para. 43);
- 5) Requested the Secretariat to continue facilitating the process of developing and implementing country level mapping of actions for food security and nutrition and report on progress of these actions to be presented at the 38th session of the Committee. (para. 54);
- 6) Agreed to develop a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) to be submitted to the 38th Session of CFS (para. 56);
- 7) Endorsed the proposal to create a suite of core food security indicators including the development, adoption and promotion of internationally accepted standards, and strongly recommended that FAO improves its measure of undernourishment with special emphasis on improving the timeliness and reliability of the underlying data and parameters included in the methodology (para. 57);

- 8) Adopted the revised CFS Rules of Procedure as presented in document CFS:2011/9 Rev.1 and mandated the Bureau to further clarify and improve them to ensure conformity to the CFS Reform document and recommend adjustments to Rule XXXIII of the General Rules of the Organization by the next regular session of CFS (paras. 61 - 62);
- 9) Approved the results-based framework for CFS and requested the Secretariat to prepare a succinct annual report on expenditures against projected costs from available resources and further integrate the 2012-2013 Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) with the results-based framework to be presented to 38th CFS in 2012 (para. 63);
- 10) Approved the proposal to organize a High-Level Expert Forum (HLEF) on Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises with a view to inter alia elaborating an “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises” (para 64).

Suggested Action by the Conference

The Conference is invited to acknowledge the outcomes of the 37th Session of CFS, where the Committee:

- 1) Recognized the importance of following points that emerged from the updates on global and regional initiatives and linkages with CFS: i) facilitating support for country-led efforts to achieve food security and nutrition; ii) promoting accountability and sharing best practices at all levels; iii) developing innovative mechanisms to monitor progress in achieving food security and nutrition objectives; iv) providing a forum for mutual information, discussion and coordination of major food security and nutrition initiatives; and v) operationalizing linkages with regional initiatives (para. 21);
- 2) Welcomed the outcomes from three round tables on the following topics: (i) “How to increase food security and smallholder-sensitive investment in agriculture”, (ii) “Gender, food security and nutrition”, and (iii) “Food price volatility”(paras 24-52);
- 3) Mandated the Bureau to recommend an update of Rule XXXIII of the General Rules of the Organization so as to make it conform with the CFS Reform Document (para. 61).

Queries on the substantive content of the document may be addressed to:

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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) held its Thirty-seventh Session from 17 to 22 October 2011 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The Session was attended by delegates from 114 Members of the Committee; by participants from:

- 8 United Nations Agencies and Bodies;
- 82 Civil society and non-governmental organizations⁶;
- 3 International agricultural research organizations;
- 5 International and regional financial institutions;
- 31 Private sector associations and private philanthropic foundations⁷;

⁶ CSO participation was facilitated by the International Food Security & Nutrition Civil Society Mechanism (CSM).

and 21 observers. The full list of Members, Participants and Observers is available from the CFS Secretariat.

2. 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; Appendix D - List of documents and other appendices for opening statements.

3. The Session was opened by Mr Noel De Luna of Philippines as Chairperson. The Committee appointed a Drafting Committee composed of Afghanistan, Argentina, Canada, China, Equatorial Guinea, France, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Russian Federation, South Africa, Syria, under the chairmanship of Ms Gerda Verburg (Netherlands).

4. The Committee was informed that the EU was participating in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article II of the FAO Constitution.

II. SETTING THE STAGE FOR CFS 37

5. Opening statements were delivered by Mr Jacques Diouf, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Mr Kanayo Nwanze, President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Ms Josette Sheeran, Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP); Mr David Nabarro, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition, on behalf of the UN Secretary-General and Mr Monkombu Sambasivan Swaminathan, Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE), and are attached as appendices.

6. The Committee considered a presentation by Mr Hafez Ghanem, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department (ESD), FAO on the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) 2011 – **How does international price volatility affect domestic economies and food security?**

7. It was noted that the substance of SOFI 2011 would be covered in the Policy Roundtable discussions.

8. The presentation focused on the following six key messages:

- i) The impact of the price shocks and swings on food security is not uniform, with poorer countries being hardest hit;
- ii) The level and volatility of domestic food prices rose in most countries;
- iii) High and volatile food prices are likely to continue in the future;
- iv) Short-term price shocks can have long term negative impacts on production, nutrition and livelihoods;
- v) High prices have potential benefits for farmers especially if accompanied by appropriate policies and programmes for smallholder agriculture; and
- vi) Policy measures are needed at the national and global levels to reduce volatility and to protect vulnerable groups from its effects.

9. Some members expressed satisfaction with the effort by FAO to improve its methodology for measuring hunger, and are looking forward to having estimates based on the new methodology in SOFI 2012.

⁷ This figure includes thirty companies under the umbrella of the International Agri-Food Network (IAFN).

III. VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR THE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE OF TENURE OF LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY

The Committee:

Acknowledged the outstanding efforts that have been made by all stakeholders regarding the negotiations of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VG LT).

11. Recognized that additional time will be required to complete the process and endorsed its continuation and finalization.
12. Acknowledged the substantial progress gained so far and recommended building on the solid base which has been achieved, while concentrating on remaining paragraphs and respecting and maintaining the spirit of understanding reached during the July and October negotiations.
13. Appreciated the commitment of Member States to the completion of the VG LT.
14. Recalled that the ultimate authority for approval of the VG LT rests with the Member States.
15. Mandated the CFS-Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group and the Secretariat, to call for an additional negotiation session with the intent of finalising the VG LT as soon as possible, taking into consideration the Committee's overall work programme and available resources.
16. Requested the CFS Secretariat to ensure that during the upcoming negotiations, translation in all FAO languages is provided and that the current negotiated text is available in the foresaid languages.

IV. UPDATES ON GLOBAL AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND LINKAGES WITH CFS

17. The Chairperson noted that the purpose of this session was to provide a platform for discussion to strengthen coordination and collaborative action at the global and regional levels amongst a wide variety of stakeholders.
18. The Committee welcomed presentation of seven global initiatives⁸:
 - i) "The G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture", by Mr Bruno Le Maire, French Minister of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries, Rural Affairs and Spatial Planning, on behalf of the G20 Presidency;
 - ii) Update on the "L'Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI)", by Mr Sujiro Seam, Chair of AFSI and Deputy Director for Global Public Goods, French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs;
 - iii) "Principled Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for a Comprehensive Approach to Food Security and Nutrition", by Mr David Nabarro, Coordinator of the United Nations High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis (UN-HLTF), Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition;
 - iv) "Achieving the Right to Food: from Global Governance to National Implementation", by Mr Olivier de Schutter, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food;
 - v) "Towards food and nutrition security for all: UNSCN/CFS linkages; Progress in the last 12 months", by Ms Denise Costa Coitinho Delmuè, Executive Secretary, United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (UN-SCN);

³ Available presentations can be found on the CFS website at: <http://www.fao.org/bodies/cfs/cfs37/en/>.

- vi) “Update of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Implementation Strategy and Results Framework”, by Mr Carlos Pérez del Castillo, Chair of the Consortium Board of CGIAR Centers; and
 - vii) “WTO and Food Security”, by Mr Clem Boonekamp, Director of the Agriculture and Commodities Division, World Trade Organization (WTO).
19. The Committee welcomed the following presentations of regional initiatives:
- i) “The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP): Its achievements and how linkages with CFS can be strengthened”, by Dr Tobias Takavarasha, Senior Officer for Agriculture Policy and Investment, of The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD);
 - ii) “The CPLP Food and Nutrition Security Strategy”, by Mr José Amaro Tati, Secretary of State for Agriculture, on behalf of Angola Government as Chairperson of CPLP region, and Mr Domingos Simões Pereira, Secretary General, Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP);
 - iii) “West Africa Charter for Food Crises Prevention and Management”, by Mr Alhousseini Bretaudeau, Executive Secretary, Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).
 - iv) “Responding to the 2011 drought emergency in the Horn of Africa”, by Dr Samuel Zziwa, Programme Manager, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); and
 - v) “Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting on Food Security, Niigata City, Japan, 16-17 October 2010: An Overview”, by Mr Yutaka Sumita, Deputy Director-General for International Affairs - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.
20. The Committee was also presented with the salient points from the Regional Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Food Security and Nutrition for the Near East and North Africa Region that took place on 3-4 October 2011 in Cairo under the CFS umbrella. Among its main recommendations, the workshop proposed the establishment of a regional CFS-type platform to monitor food security in the region and enable policy practitioners to share information, good practices and lessons learned (CFS:2011/Inf.19).
21. Emerging from the discussions, the Committee recognized the importance of:
- i) Facilitating support for country-led efforts to achieve food security and nutrition;
 - ii) Promoting accountability and sharing best practices at all levels;
 - iii) Developing innovative mechanisms to monitor progress in achieving food security and nutrition objectives;
 - iv) Providing a forum for mutual information, discussion and coordination of major food security and nutrition initiatives; and
 - v) Operationalizing linkages with regional initiatives.
22. The Committee decided to include the CPLP as an observer at CFS sessions.

V. POLICY ROUNDTABLES

23. The Committee hosted three policy roundtables on the following topics: (i) “How to increase food security and smallholder-sensitive investment in agriculture”; (ii) “Gender, food security and nutrition”; and (iii) “Food price volatility”. The following were the outcomes of the Committee’s deliberations.

A. POLICY ROUNDTABLE “HOW TO INCREASE FOOD SECURITY AND SMALLHOLDER-SENSITIVE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE”

The Committee:

24. Underlined the paramount importance of increased and improved investment in agriculture for achieving food security and nutrition for all.
25. Recognized that the bulk of investment in agriculture is undertaken by farmers and smallholders themselves, their cooperatives and other rural enterprises with the rest being provided by a multiplicity of private actors as well as governments.
26. Acknowledged that smallholder farmers, many of whom are women, play a central role in producing most of the food consumed locally in many developing regions and are the primary investors in agriculture in many developing countries.
27. Welcomed the report of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on “Land Tenure and International Investments in Agriculture”, and duly takes note of its recommendations.
28. Duly took note of the report and recommendations resulting from the Regional Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Food Security and Nutrition for the Near East and North Africa Region that took place on 3-4 October 2011 in Cairo under the CFS umbrella.
29. Therefore, the Committee urged member governments, international partners and other stakeholders to follow-up on the following recommendations:
 - i) Ensure that public investment, services, and policies for agriculture give due priority to enabling, supporting and complementing smallholders’ own investment with particular attention to women food producers who face specific difficulties and need specific policies and support;
 - ii) Ensure that agricultural policies and public investment give priority to food production and nutrition and increase the resilience of local and traditional food systems and biodiversity, with a focus on strengthening sustainable smallholder food production, reducing post harvest losses, increasing post harvest value addition, and on fostering smallholder-inclusive local, national and regional food markets including transportation, storage and processing;
 - iii) Ensure that public policies and investment play a catalytic role in the formation of partnerships among agricultural investors, including private-public, farmer co-operative-private and private-private partnerships, to ensure that the interests of smallholders are being served and preserved by those partnerships, and recognize that, in many cases, the State has a crucial role to play in facilitating access of smallholders to credit, technical and extension services, insurance, and markets;
 - iv) Give due attention to new market and environmental risks facing smallholder agriculture, and design investment, services and policies so as to mitigate these risks and strengthen the ability of both women and men smallholders to manage them. Align investment in agriculture with environmental sustainability considerations; and
 - v) Actively involve organizations representing smallholders and agricultural workers in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies for investment in agriculture, and in the design of investment programmes in agriculture and food value chains;
30. Furthermore the Committee:
 - vi) Encouraged governments and other stakeholders to report to the Committee as determined in the framework of ‘Mapping food security actions at country level’, on actions being taken to align international and domestic private and public investment in agriculture with food security concerns, including progress made in the implementation of the recommendations above, and to share lessons learned from

- national experiences. This reporting should be prepared in the context of a multi-actor forum that replicates at country level the inclusive vision of the new CFS;
- vii) Requested the HLPE to include in its plans for future work, taking into account available resources, a comparative study of constraints to smallholder investment in agriculture in different contexts with policy options for addressing these constraints, taking into consideration the work done on this topic by IFAD, and by FAO in the context of COAG, and the work of other key partners. This should include a comparative assessment of strategies for linking smallholders to food value chains in national and regional markets and what can be learned from different experiences, as well as an assessment of the impacts on smallholders of public-private as well as farmer cooperative-private and private-private partnerships;
 - viii) Recognized the urgent need to finalize the negotiations on the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, which will underpin smallholder investment in agriculture;
 - ix) Supported an inclusive consultation process within CFS for the development and the broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhance food security and nutrition; acknowledged that the first step of this consultation process will be to develop terms of reference that include the scope, purpose, intended recipients and structure of these principles as well as the format of the consultation process, taking into account existing frameworks, such as the RAI principles developed by FAO, IFAD, UNCTAD and the World Bank. This consultation process will be initiated promptly after approval of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, and will be overseen by the CFS Bureau with the assistance of the joint Secretariat and in close collaboration with the Advisory Group and the involvement of all interested stakeholders, with a view to submitting these principles for the consideration of CFS. The consultation process will seek to ensure consistency and complementarity with the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security;
 - x) Urged the explicit recognition of smallholder-sensitive investment among the criteria for characterizing responsible corporate investment in agriculture. The definition of this term should be specifically addressed in the consultation on responsible investment in agriculture; and
 - xi) Requested the CFS Secretariat, in collaboration with the Advisory Group and based on the information made available by the relevant stakeholders, to prepare a general report on the state of implementation of the above recommendations to be presented to CFS.

B. POLICY ROUNDTABLE ON “GENDER, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION”

The Committee:

30. Recognized that achieving food security and adequate nutrition for women, men and their families are inter-linked with comprehensive development efforts and urges all stakeholders to take concrete actions to improve women’s health, educational and nutritional status.
31. Called upon Member States, international organizations, and other stakeholders, to recognize that advancing human rights is critical for achieving world food security and nutrition.
32. Urged Member States, through measures including affirmative action, when appropriate, to:

- i) Ensure women's meaningful participation in all decision making processes related to achieving women's progressive realization of the right to food in the context of national food security, and nutrition;
- ii) Ensure that women have equal access to health, education, land, water and other natural resources, including by enacting gender-sensitive legislation.

33. Urged Member States to actively promote women's leadership and to strengthen women's capacity for collective organizing, especially in the rural sector.

34. Urged Member States to develop a policy and legal framework with appropriate compliance-monitoring to ensure women's and men's equal access to productive resources including land ownership and inheritance, access to financial services, agricultural technology and information, business registration and operation, and employment opportunities, and to enact and enforce laws that protect women from all kinds of violence. Where appropriate, Member States should audit all existing laws for discrimination and amend discriminatory laws.

35. Urged Member States to involve women in the decision-making process with regards to national and international responses to global challenges to food security and nutrition.

36. Called upon Member States, international organizations, and other stakeholders, to include improvement of women's, adolescent girls', infants' and child's nutritional status, including hidden hunger or micronutrient deficiencies and obesity as a new manifestation of malnutrition, as an explicit goal and expected outcome of agriculture, food security and nutrition-related programmes, emergency responses, strategies and policies, from design to implementation.

37. Recalled the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, and in particular its recommendations for advancing women's food security under the strategic objectives on macroeconomic and development policies (A1), vocational training and continuing education (B3), health (C1), access to resources, employment, markets and trade (F2) and sustainable development (K2).

38. Urged the Bureau to encourage and engage as appropriate with UN Women in the development of specific indicators, targets and time tables to measure progress made towards advancing women's food security, and to invite UN Women to report on progress at the 39th session of CFS.

39. Took note of the report and recommendations relating to gender, food security and nutrition resulting from the Regional Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Food Security and Nutrition for the Near East and North Africa Region that took place on 3-4 October 2011 in Cairo under the CFS umbrella.

40. Called upon Member States to support the adoption and implementation of maternity and paternity protection legislation and related measures that allow women and men to perform their care giving role and therefore provide for the nutritional needs of their children and protect their own health, whilst protecting their employment security.

41. Urged Member States, international organizations, and other stakeholders to work together to promote synergies and avoid wasteful duplication to identify and support strategies, policies and actions to further strengthen gender-sensitive food security and nutrition, health and education interventions that scale-up practical solutions for women, including:

- i) Statistics with regard to food security and nutrition should be sex and age-disaggregated;
- ii) Gender analysis and nutrition impact assessments should be conducted to inform food security and nutrition policy, programme and project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, including the use of appropriate indicators, gender targets and funding;
- iii) Agricultural investments should take into account the specific needs of both women and men, bearing in mind that investments in land and other natural resources have impact on women's food security. Moreover, agricultural investment plans, policies

and programmes should be designed so that women and men have equal access to programme services and operations, being cognizant of women's and men's commitments to household economies and to child-rearing and recognizing their different needs;

- iv) Smallholder women farmers should be prioritized in agricultural programming to foster equity while taking into consideration the specific food and nutrition needs of women, men and children; and
- v) Support adoption of safety net programmes including home-grown school feeding and school gardens, which encourages girl's attendance at school and links economic empowerment of women smallholders, food security and nutrition of girls in school, and improved education outcomes.

42. Recommended that gender is included in the monitoring mechanisms of current and future Voluntary Guidelines, including the "The Progressive Realization of the Right to adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security", and "Responsible Governance of Land Tenure, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security" and similar initiatives that will be discussed or endorsed by CFS.

43. Requested the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group and joint Secretariat, as well as with relevant international organizations, in particular World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to propose options on the meaning and different uses, if any, of the terms "Food Security", "Food Security and Nutrition", "Food and Nutrition Security" and "Nutrition Security" to the CFS Session for the standardization of the official terminology that the Committee should use taking into account that nutrition is a key pillar of "Food Security" as officially defined.

44. Requested the CFS Secretariat, in collaboration with the Advisory Group, and based on information made available by the relevant stakeholders, to prepare a general report on the state of implementation of the above recommendations to be presented to CFS.

C. POLICY ROUNDTABLE ON "FOOD PRICE VOLATILITY"

The Committee:

45. Stressed the need for concerted international efforts to address the structural causes of food price volatility and ensure that its impacts do not undermine small and marginal producers and consumers' right to food.

46. Expressed its appreciation for the efforts by the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) for its work on price volatility and food security, and took note of its report on Price Volatility and Food Security and recommendations contained therein.

47. Welcomed the Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture of the G20 as a positive effort to address a number of the main causes and implications of food price volatility and would welcome its endorsement by the G20 Summit to be held in November 2011.

48. Welcomed the outcome of the Regional Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Food Security and Nutrition for the Near East and North Africa Region that took place on 3-4 October 2011 in Cairo under the CFS umbrella and encouraged the Regional Members to deal with coordination issues at both regional and national levels.

49. Took note of the assessment by FAO and other stakeholders of the positive and negative effects of different policy responses to high and volatile food prices, as discussed in the series of regional and subregional consultations organized by FAO in 2011.

50. Recommended the following action points, their development and implementation, by the appropriate parties and stakeholders:

Actions to increase food production and availability, and to enhance resilience to shocks:

- a) Increase stable and sustainable public and private investment to strengthen smallholder production systems, boost agricultural productivity, foster rural development and increase resilience with particular attention to smallholder agriculture;
- b) Promote a significant expansion of agricultural research and development, and its funding, including by strengthening the work of the reformed CGIAR, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions, and promoting technology transfer, sharing of knowledge and practices, including for family farming, and capacity building through North-South and South-South cooperation;
- c) Support the development, or review, by Member Countries, of comprehensive national food security strategies which are country-owned and led, evidence-based and inclusive of all key partners at national level, in particular civil society, women's and farmers' organizations, and which establish policy coherence in respective sectors, including national economic policies, to address food price volatility;
- d) Urge Member Countries to explore measures and incentives to reduce waste and losses in the food system, including addressing post harvest losses;

Actions to reduce volatility:

- e) Support the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) to enhance food market information and transparency, and urge the participating international organizations, private sector actors and governments to ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products;
- f) Acknowledging the need for countries to better coordinate responses in times of food price crises, support the establishment of the AMIS Rapid Response Forum and request the CFS Bureau to ensure appropriate links between that Forum and CFS;
- g) Improve transparency, regulation and supervision of agricultural derivative markets;
- h) Noting that a transparent and predictable international trade in food is crucial for reducing excessive price volatility and maintaining focus on building an accountable and rules-based multilateral trading system taking into account food security concerns, in particular those of the Least Developed and Net Food Importing Developing Countries. In that context, support an ambitious, balanced and comprehensive conclusion of the Doha Development Round in accordance with its mandate;
- i) Review biofuels policies - where applicable and if necessary - according to balanced science-based assessments of the opportunities and challenges they may present for food security so that biofuels can be produced where it is socially, economically and environmentally feasible to do so. In line with this, mandate the HLPE, with full consideration of resources and other CFS priorities, to conduct a science-based comparative literature analysis, taking into consideration the work produced by the FAO and Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), of the positive and negative effects of biofuels on food security to be presented to CFS;
- j) Request relevant international organizations, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, to further assess the constraints and effectiveness of local, national and regional food reserves;

Actions to mitigate the negative impacts of volatility:

- k) Increase the role of the state, where appropriate, to mitigate the negative impacts of volatility, including through the development of stable, long-term national social protection strategies and safety nets, particularly addressing vulnerable categories of populations such as women and children, that can be leveraged and scaled-up in times of crisis. Reiterate, in this context, the mandate for a HLPE study on the matter, requesting its presentation to the 38th Session of CFS;
- l) Recommend the use of national and local social safety nets and local purchase mechanisms, whenever appropriate, for the delivery of food aid, while taking time, market,

production, institutional and other relevant factors into account, in accordance with the rules of the multilateral trading system;

- m) Endorse efforts requested by the G20 for WFP and other international organizations and partners (such as the Economic Community of West African States - ECOWAS) and West African countries, to support the development of a pilot project in West Africa, for a targeted regional emergency humanitarian food reserve, consistent with Annex 2 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture;
- n) Request that the international organizations, in consultation with other relevant stakeholders, develop a framework for a draft voluntary code of conduct for emergency humanitarian food reserves management, for further consideration by CFS;
- o) Develop risk management instruments, including for mitigating the impact of price shocks, and recommend their mainstreaming into national food security strategies focused on mitigating risk for the most vulnerable against food price volatility. Attention should also be given to the inclusion of best practices and lessons learned for vulnerable small-scale food producers;
- p) Welcome the decision by the G20 to agree to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes for food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by WFP and not to impose them in the future, and urge all Member States to agree to the same principle;
- q) Welcome increased international support for food assistance, especially in times of high and volatile food prices and based on need, including under the framework of the Food Aid Convention.

51. Recommended that FAO, IFAD, WFP and other relevant international organizations and CFS stakeholders reinforce the policy dialogue among themselves and Member Countries with a view to enhancing adoption and implementation of the above recommendations at all appropriate levels; and

52. Requested the CFS Secretariat to prepare, in collaboration with the Advisory Group and based on information made available by the relevant stakeholders, a general report on the state of implementation of all of the above recommendations and action points, to be presented to CFS at a date to be decided by the CFS Bureau.

VI. GLOBAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL PROCESSES (CFS:2011/7)

A. MAPPING FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION ACTIONS AT COUNTRY LEVEL – THE WAY FORWARD

B. COUNTRY CASE STUDIES ON MAPPING

53. The Committee considered the progress made since the 36th session, which was further supported by five case studies reporting on experiences with, and lessons learned from, mapping food security and nutrition (FSN) actions, including, Nigeria, Madagascar, West Bank and Gaza Strip (Palestinian Territories⁹), Cambodia and the Regional Programme for Food Security and Nutrition in Central America (PRESANCA, based in El Salvador).

54. The Committee:

- i) Requested the Secretariat to continue facilitating the process of developing and implementing country level mapping of FSN, and to provide an update at the 38th session of CFS in 2012;

⁹ Members of the Near East Group and some members of the Committee expressed their reservation to not referring to “Occupied Palestinian Territories” as per agreed terminology in the UN system.

- ii) Encouraged interested stakeholders and relevant sectors to participate in assisting countries with the development and implementation of mapping FSN actions, form appropriate multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships and encouraged harmonization of methods;
- iii) Recommended that additional national governments be invited to present at CFS 38 in 2012, with a view to sharing the results of mapping food security and nutrition actions to inform other national governments, exchange experiences between countries and international actors, and obtain their support for the country level mapping process;
- iv) Recommended that adequate resources be made available to fund follow-up activities to provide interested countries with technical support for the development and implementation of FSN mapping systems as part of their national development monitoring efforts;
- v) Recommended that the process to map food security and nutrition actions be made an integral part of National Information Systems covering the food and agricultural sector;
- vi) Encouraged the use of a standard methodology in the process to map food security and nutrition actions at country level;
- vii) Recommended that the process to map food security and nutrition actions be considered during FAO Regional Conferences that will be held in 2012. The outcomes of the discussion will be presented during the 38th Session of CFS; and
- viii) Requested the Secretariat to work with the appropriate stakeholders to facilitate the development of systems that allow the consolidation and dissemination of the results of the mapping of food security and nutrition initiatives, to the benefit of a better alignment and coordination of the international community in support of national and regional strategies and policies. The progress report on this process should be presented at the 38th Session of the Committee.

55. The Committee also endorsed the recommendations in section IV of the document CFS:2011/7, which can be found in Annex J of this report.

STATUS OF GLOBAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (CFS:2011/8)

56. Bearing in mind the Member States' agreement to develop a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) to be submitted to the 38th Session of CFS, and considering the progress made so far, the Committee:

- i) Acknowledged the CFS Bureau-led consultative and inclusive process that has led to an agreement between participating stakeholders on the proposed purposes, basic principles, structure and process of the GSF (CFS:2011/Inf.14), the GSF Annotated Outline (CFS:2011/Inf.13), and the online consultation to solicit feedback from a wide range of stakeholders on the Annotated Outline which will be taken into consideration when preparing Draft One;
- ii) Underlined the critical role of planned consultations on the GSF and encouraged all stakeholders to participate actively in these at international and regional levels during 2012, including by mobilizing resources to ensure that the voices of all relevant CFS stakeholders – particularly those most affected by food insecurity - are heard; and
- iii) Underlined the role of the GSF as a dynamic instrument which reflects and consolidates the ongoing policy convergence work of CFS, and determined that the decisions and recommendations of the 37th Session of CFS with respect to food price volatility, smallholder-sensitive investment in agriculture, and gender, food security and nutrition are incorporated and developed, as appropriate, in the final draft of the GSF.

D. REVIEW OF METHODS TO ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF HUNGRY (CFS:2011/6)

57. The Committee welcomed the report of the Roundtable on “Monitoring Food Security” held on 12-13 September 2011 at FAO headquarters, Rome and the key findings and recommendations contained therein. In particular, the Committee:

- i) Endorsed the proposal of creating a suite of core food security indicators and the process of doing so as described in the document, including the development, adoption and promotion of internationally accepted standards;
- ii) Strongly recommended that FAO improve its measure of undernourishment with special emphasis on improving the timeliness and reliability of the underlying data and parameters included in the methodology;
- iii) Strongly encouraged FAO and other relevant agencies to strengthen their capacity development efforts in order to enhance both basic food and agricultural statistics and specific food security monitoring systems;
- iv) Urged countries to strengthen their national information systems on food security and nutrition;
- v) Underlined the need to better integrate all actions related to food security and nutrition information at all levels, and encouraged the mobilisation of resources towards that end;
- vi) Recommended that the dialogue between policy makers, statistical agencies and data providers be further intensified in order to better identify and link information needs for the design, implementation and monitoring of food security policies to the supply of such information; and
- vii) Called upon the CFS Secretariat to report to the CFS Plenary on progress regarding recommended actions. The Bureau of the Committee, in consultation with the CFS Secretariat and the Advisory Group, will decide on the timing and other modalities of this reporting in accordance with the Committee’s work programme and available resources.

VII. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CFS REFORM

A. CFS RULES OF PROCEDURE (CFS:2011/9 REV.1)

58. The Chair and the Secretariat introduced document CFS:2011/9 Rev.1 Revised CFS Rules of Procedure.

59. In conformity with Rule X of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on World Food Security, the Committee, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast established through a nominal vote, decided to suspend the application of Rule XI therein to allow consideration of revised document CFS:2011/9 Rev.1.

60. Subsequently, the Committee, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast established through a nominal vote, adopted the revised CFS Rules of Procedure as presented in document CFS:2011/9 Rev.1.

61. The Committee:

- i) Mandated the Bureau to recommend an update of Rule XXXIII of the General Rules of the Organization by the next regular Session of CFS, to be then forwarded to the next FAO Conference in June 2013 so as to make it conform with the CFS Reform Document as well as with the revised Rules of Procedure as approved by the current Session. The Committee noted that due regard shall be paid to the text and spirit of the CFS Reform Document in the meantime;

- ii) Reaffirmed the importance of the CFS Reform Document, which shall continue to provide the main reference document regarding the status of the reformed CFS, including with respect to the interpretation of these Rules of Procedure;
- iii) Requested the Bureau to further analyze, in coordination with the relevant agencies, the modalities and requirements whereby a system of rotation of the CFS Secretary among FAO, IFAD and WFP could be implemented, including the required qualifications and terms of reference for the CFS Secretary as well as the reporting lines, with a view to allowing the CFS to make an informed decision on the matter at its next regular session; and
- iv) Requested the Bureau, in coordination with the relevant agencies, to further analyze the modalities and requirements for inclusion in the Secretariat of other UN entities directly concerned with food security and nutrition, with a view to allowing the CFS to take an informed decision on the matter at its next regular session.

62. The Committee outlined a number of areas in which the CFS Rules of Procedure should be further clarified and improved, including procedures to elect the Chair such as term limits (eligibility for re-election), deadline for nomination of the candidacies and regional rotations. The procedures for the election of the Bureau members and their alternates should be clarified as well. Those improvements, together with a proposed revision of Rule XXXIII of the General Rules of FAO, which will have to be approved by the FAO Conference, are to be presented to the 38th CFS in 2012.

B. RESULTS-BASED FRAMEWORK (CFS:2011/10)

63. The Committee:

- i) Approved the results-based framework for CFS as a dynamic document, recognizing that refinements are required;
- ii) Requested the Secretariat to prepare, on the basis of commitments taken since the reform of the CFS, a succinct annual report on expenditures against projected costs from available resources; and
- iii) Requested the CFS Bureau to work with the Secretariat to further integrate the 2012-2013 Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) with the results-based framework with a view to preparing a more detailed and prioritized Multi-year Programme of Work and Budget to be presented to the 38th CFS in 2012.

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

A. UPDATE ON CFS DECISIONS “HIGH-LEVEL EXPERTS FORUM ON ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY IN PROTRACTED CRISES” (CFS:2011/12)

64. The Committee:

- i) Approved the proposal to organize a High-Level Expert Forum (HLEF) on Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises with a view to inter alia elaborating an “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises”;
- ii) Agreed that the CFS Bureau will oversee the modalities for the organization of the said HLEF in collaboration with the Secretariat, the Advisory Group and the High Level Panel of Experts as appropriate. The report of the outcomes of the HLEF will be considered by the plenary of the Committee;
- iii) Approved the proposal to hold an extensive consultation process with all stakeholders on the outcome of the HLEF with the view to presenting a proposed “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises” for the consideration of the plenary of CFS as appropriate; and
- iv) Agreed that the CFS Bureau will decide on the dates of the forum taking into consideration the overall CFS programme of work.

B. PROPOSAL FOR ENHANCING CORPORATE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

65. The Committee acknowledged the document CFS: 2011/Inf.15, Proposal for Modalities for Private Sector Participation in the Committee on World Food Security, and expressed appreciation for the constructive involvement by the private sector representation in the work of the Committee.

C. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

66. The Chair recommended that the Thirty-eighth Session be held from 15-20 October 2012 at FAO headquarters in Rome, as indicated on the Provisional Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies. The exact dates will be determined by the Director-General in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee.

D. BUREAU 2012-2013 COMPOSITION

67. The Committee elected Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran, Permanent Representative of Nigeria, as the Chair of CFS. The Committee elected by acclamation the following representatives as members and alternate members of the incoming CFS Bureau:

- Members: Angola, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jordan, Switzerland, United States of America, Zimbabwe;
- Alternates: Armenia, Canada, Congo, Iran, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Oman, Sri Lanka, Uganda and two from GRULAC (to be confirmed).