



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fifty-first Session

"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"

Rome, Italy, 23-27 October 2023

CFS VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION – DRAFT DECISION

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Committee considers documents CFS 2023/51/3 “Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition” and CFS 2023/51/4 “Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition – Draft Decision”, as presented by the CFS Chair, Ambassador Gabriel Ferrero de Loma-Osorio (Spain), Ms Berioska Morrison Gonzalez (Dominican Republic), Co-facilitator of the CFS OEWG on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in 2023, Ms Tanja Grén (Finland) and Tomas Duncan Jurado (Panama), Co-chairs in 2022.
2. The Committee:
 - a. Endorses CFS 2023/51/3 “Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition”, as a key intergovernmentally-agreed global policy framework in support of country-led efforts towards achieving food security and nutrition, taking note of their voluntary and non-binding nature;
 - b. Expresses its deepest appreciation for the work of the OEWG on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment and commends the effective leadership of the Chair and the Co-facilitator of the OEWG as well as of previous Co-chairs of this OEWG;

- c. Welcomes the keynote intervention by [...] on how achieving gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment (GEWGE) contributes to the progressive realization of the right to food in the context of national food security, and of human rights;
- d. Urges Members to utilize these Voluntary Guidelines within their policies, strategies, programs and regulatory frameworks, and to share progress and experiences with the Committee in line with the standard monitoring practice of the Committee;
- e. Encourages all CFS stakeholders to support and promote at all levels, within their constituencies and in collaboration with other relevant initiatives and platforms, the dissemination, use, and application of the Guidelines to support the development, enhancement and implementation of coordinated and multisectoral national policies, laws, programmes investment plans and innovative partnerships to tackle the root causes of gender inequalities and foster greater policy coherence among GEWGE and food security and nutrition agendas, and mutually reinforcing policy measures;
- f. Commends countries that have voluntarily pledged to deploy the Voluntary Guidelines in their own national policy and/or legislative circumstances, in conjunction with commitments related to the 2030 Agenda, and encourages other countries to take similar steps to actively utilize this CFS policy agreement as a tool for national-level, multistakeholder action to address all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, which negatively impact food security and nutrition for themselves and for their families, households, communities and countries, as well as related social, economic and sustainability issues;
- g. Decides to transmit these Voluntary Guidelines to the Governing Bodies of FAO, WFP and IFAD for their further consideration regarding supporting their utilization at country level, in line with country requests and pursuant to Rule XXXIII, paragraph 17, of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule X, paragraph 1, of the CFS Rules of Procedure, and in accordance with paragraph 22 of the CFS Reform Document;
- h. Decides to request the United Nations General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to consider and ensure the wide dissemination of the VGs on GEWGE to all relevant UN Organizations and Agencies, including the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), consistent with Rule XXXIII, paragraph 15, of the General Rules of the Organization, Rule X, paragraph 4, of the CFS Rules of Procedure, and paragraph 21 of the CFS Reform Document;
- i. Agrees to include these Guidelines in the CFS Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS GSF).