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**COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY**

**Thirty-seventh Session**

**Rome, 17-22 October 2011**

**Item VI**

**STATUS OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR  
FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

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### **Matters to be brought to the attention of CFS:**

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 is invited to:

- i) Acknowledge 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) Underline the critical role of planned consultations on the GSF and encourage 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
- iii) Underline the role of the GSF as a dynamic instrument which reflects and consolidates the ongoing policy convergence work of CFS, and determines 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.

## **I. BACKGROUND**

1. During the CFS reform process, Member States agreed to “develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition in order to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders”<sup>1</sup>.
2. During the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the CFS, Member States decided the following:
 

*“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.”*<sup>2</sup>
3. The first step in the consultative and inclusive process for developing this first version, was to reach agreement on **the purposes, basic principles, structure and process of the GSF**, taking into account the existing frameworks. The CFS Bureau established a working group on the GSF that conducted an open and inclusive consultation on these issues, by means of an electronic

<sup>1</sup> Page 6, para iii. [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs0910/ReformDoc/CFS\\_2009\\_2\\_Rev\\_2\\_E\\_K7197.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs0910/ReformDoc/CFS_2009_2_Rev_2_E_K7197.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> CFS:2010/ FINAL REPORT, Page 6, para 29

survey and discussion meetings, and reached an agreement on a proposal which was endorsed by the CFS Bureau on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2011 (CFS:2011/Inf.14).

4. According to this proposal, "The overall purpose of the GSF is to provide a dynamic instrument to enhance the role of the CFS and promote its vision as a platform 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" .

5. The proposal provided the basis for the development of the **GSF Annotated Outline (CFS:2011/Inf.13)** by a CFS Task Team consisting of members of the Secretariat and Advisory Group, with input from the HLPE Steering Committee. The intention of the Annotated Outline is to be indicative of the structure and content of the Global Strategic Framework and to "stimulate discussion and debate".

6. From 26<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011, an online consultation involving a wide range of stakeholders was held to solicit feed back on the Annotated Outline and proposals for the content of Draft One of the Global Strategic Framework. The consultation provided the opportunity for many stakeholders to help ensure that the Global Strategic Framework is based on the reality on the ground, drawn from best practices and lessons learned from local experience, and from expert advice and opinions of different stakeholders.

7. The initial results of the Consultation are summarized in section II.

## II. SUMMARY OF ON LINE CONSULTATION

8. The results of the consultation presented below are a summary of contributions received until 23 September 2011. They do not include consolidated proposals from parallel consultations such as those being conducted by the Civil Society Mechanism, the Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition, the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition, the Food for the Cities Network, and Private Sector, that are still expected. All contributions received, including till mid October when the consultation ends, will be taken into account when preparing Draft One of the Global Strategic Framework.

9. A number of general proposals were made concerning the GSF. These included changing its title to "GSF for Food and Nutrition Strategy" and renaming some of the sections. A brief explanation of the *Five Rome Principles* and other basic elements on which the GSF is to be prepared, as well definitions of food security and of nutrition security, should be provided in an introduction. It should be clear that the GSF will offer guidelines and recommendations for action at national as well as at the international level.

10. It was suggested that in Section II of the Annotated Outline, "Long-term challenges and structural causes of food insecurity and malnutrition", the following issues should be emphasized as causes of food insecurity and malnutrition:

- inadequate governance and accountability for food security and nutrition,
- reduced investment in small scale agriculture,
- insufficient attention to the rights of women including access to land, to jobs, and to reproductive health,
- insecurity of land tenure and access to productive resources by the most affected, and
- financial speculation on international food (commodity) markets, and international trade policies that affect domestic food production, negatively.

11. Proposals made regarding Section III, "Priority issues to be addressed", and Section IV "Policy options", were derived from the "Long-term challenges and structural causes of food

insecurity and malnutrition” that were highlighted in Section II of the Annotated Outline. In some cases, the nature of such priorities and the type of policy options that could be considered to address them, were elaborated. Such detail, which largely mirrors proposals made regarding Section II of the Annotated Outline, is not provided here to avoid repetition. As pointed out in paragraph 8 above, such information will of course be taken fully into account when preparing Draft One of the Global Strategic Framework.

12. Suggestions made regarding Section V, “Monitoring progress towards objectives at country level”, included:

- changing the title to also include monitoring at the international level,
- the need to monitor the impact of the GSF, and to suggest indicators by which intergovernmental organizations and the CFS could be held accountable to the proposed goals of the GSF,
- the need to consider nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive performance indicators.

### **III. NEXT STEPS**

13. Draft One of the GSF will be produced early in 2012 by the CFS Task Team consisting of members of the Secretariat and Advisory Group, with further input from the HLPE Steering Committee.

14. In order to develop Draft Two during 2012, stakeholders will be encouraged to participate in consultations on the GSF at international and regional levels, including by mobilizing resources to ensure that the voices of all relevant CFS stakeholders – particularly those most affected by food insecurity - are heard.

15. The CFS Bureau in consultation with the Advisory Group and Secretariat will manage the process of arriving at a Final Draft of the GSF to be submitted to CFS Plenary for approval.