



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Thirty-ninth Session
Rome, Italy, 15-20 October 2012
Agenda Item V.b
FIRST VERSION OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (GSF)
PREAMBLE AND DECISION BOX

I. BACKGROUND

1. One of the roles identified in the CFS Reform was to develop a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) to improve coordination and guide synchronized action by a wide range of stakeholders. The intention is that it will build upon existing frameworks such as the UN's Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security¹
2. At its 36th Session in Rome in October 2010, 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 other stakeholders, to develop the First Version of the GSF by October 2012. The first step of this process was to conduct inclusive consultations to find agreement on GSF purposes, basic principles and structure, taking into account existing frameworks.
3. At its 37th Session in Rome 17-22 October 2011, the Committee acknowledged the CFS Bureau-led consultative and inclusive process, which had led to agreement between participating stakeholders on the proposed purposes, basic principles, structure and process of the GSF (CFS:2011/Inf.14) and an Annotated Outline (CFS:2011/Inf.13) to develop the First Draft. Stakeholders were encouraged to participate actively in planned consultations 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 – were heard.

¹ CFS:2009/2 Rev.2 para 6(iii)

4. In accordance with the Committee's guidance, an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG), chaired by Brazil, and including representatives of Governments, UN agencies and other UN bodies, CSOs, international agricultural research institutions, the private sector and other stakeholders, was set-up by the CFS Bureau to develop a Zero Draft and then a First Draft of the GSF. The First Draft of the GSF was later the object of a wide online consultation in March and April of 2012 and multi-stakeholder discussions at the FAO Regional Conferences during 2012. Based on these consultations, a Second Draft of the GSF was prepared and circulated for discussion by the OEWG at well-attended meetings in Rome on 27-29 June and 19 July 2012. This process resulted in the First Version of the GSF, attached as an Addendum, which is submitted for consideration by the 39th Session of CFS.

5. The overall purpose of the GSF is to provide a dynamic instrument to enhance the role of CFS as a platform to improve cooperation, catalyze coordinated action and provide guidance towards effective and synergized partnerships in support of global, regional and country-led plans and processes designed to prevent future food crises, eliminate hunger and ensure food security and nutrition for all². As such, the GSF will not replace, but rather add value to other international frameworks for food security by providing an inclusive, global and holistic perspective. The GSF is to be subject to regular updates, reflecting the outcomes and recommendations of CFS in a consistent manner with multilateral principles, agreements and mandates.

6. Through endorsement by the CFS, the GSF is acknowledged as a sound framework to improve policy convergence and synchronised action for food security and nutrition by a wide range of stakeholders.

DECISION BOX

The Committee:

- i) Expressed its gratitude to the Chair of the OEWG on the GSF, its Members and Participants, as well as the Secretariat, for the successful conclusions of the negotiations, which have been conducted in an inclusive, transparent and participatory manner;
- ii) Endorsed the First Version of the GSF, attached to this Report as an Addendum;
- iii) Noted that the main added value of the GSF is to provide an overarching framework and a single reference document with practical guidance on core recommendations for food security and nutrition strategies, policies and actions validated by the wide ownership, participation and consultation afforded by the CFS, and noted that the GSF is not a legally binding document;
- iv) Encouraged all stakeholders to promote and make use of the First Version of the GSF when formulating strategies, policies and programmes on food security, nutrition, agriculture, fisheries and forests;
- v) Agreed that the GSF should be updated regularly to reflect the outcomes and recommendations of the CFS in a manner consistent with multilateral principles, agreements and mandates

² CFS:2011/Inf.13 para 1