

Speaking points Carla Montesi at CFS47

CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA)

Tuesday 9 February, morning session

- Many thanks to the CFS for having placed the Framework for Action for food security and nutrition in protracted crises prominent on the agenda of the plenary. Like protracted crises themselves, we sometimes have the feeling that this document does not receive the attention it deserves, including in the CFS community.
- The EU, including the European Commission, has been actively involved in the preparation of this Framework. We continue to recognise the relevance of the FFA and its eleven principles. Unfortunately, the number and severity of protracted crises has increased, rather than decreased since the FFA was published. This underlines the urgent need for the international community at large to address them in an integrated manner, as the FFA recommends us to do.
- A major initiative taken since the publication of the FFA in 2015 has been the Global Network against Food Crises. Convened by FAO and WFP – and with strong support from the EU, financially and technically- this Global Network has taken a number of important steps to understand the characteristics of food crises and to address them. Many of the food crises are protracted in nature. The Global Network also tries to improve coordination among key actors in protracted crises, stretching along the humanitarian-development-peace axis.
- In the few years that the Global Network is active, it has managed to initiate the annual publication of the Global Report on Food Crises. This Global Report forms an excellent, evidence-based picture of the food crises in the world, including their causes and outlook. The European Commission is actively using this report in its decisions on financial allocations, including on resilience building. I would like to encourage the CFS to systematically use the Global Report on Food Crises as basis for its discussions and recommendations.
- In a few months, the 2021 edition of the Global Report will appear. It will provide the first occasion to include a global evidence-based assessment on how COVID-19 is affecting food crises. The report is therefore likely to

again show an increase in the number of people facing food crises. And subsequently we will be faced again with questions on how to enhance the effectiveness of our global response. The answers should include a broadening of the financing base and a better way of addressing the structural problems of food systems in ways that will reduce humanitarian needs over time. The Global Network and the CFS should put these questions squarely on the table in the months ahead.

- I would like to use my brief intervention to also express, on behalf of the European Commission, our sincere thanks to Dominique Burgeon. His energy, wisdom and vision has allowed for numerous quality interventions in emergencies and in protracted food crises. And these have saved numerous lives and livelihoods. He has also been a driving force in the development of the Global Network against Food Crises. We will dearly miss him as our interlocutor at FAO Headquarters, but are sure that the excellent cooperation remains during his posting in Geneva.
- Thank you all for your attention

[nearly 500 words]