

Statement by Australia on Agenda Item IV: CFS MULTI YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPoW) 2020-2023

a) Update of the Rolling Section of the CFS MYPoW 2020-2023

Australia welcomes the opportunity to comment on the CFS multi-year plan of work and we offer the following four comments:

First, we highlight the importance and value of the data-collection and analysis work stream. The necessity of data to support robust evidence-based policy guidance is well understood and is instrumental in our collective efforts to deliver against the 2030 Agenda

Second, we note the need to encourage and maximise fulsome engagement of Members. In this regard and based on recent experience, we highlight the importance of not overloading the work program and the value of dedicated attention to one work stream at a time. This is particularly important for countries such as Australia that have a small representation base.

Third, Australia notes and supports the agreed order for CFS to address the identified thematic work streams. We also emphasise the value of integrating CFS consideration of cross cutting-issues, such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, into the existing work streams so as not to create additional resource burden and adverse funding implications.

And fourth, Australia highlights the importance of CFS operating within its mandate and the importance of the Committee augmenting, not duplicating, existing work.