

Plenary CFS 47 | Committee on World Food Security

Item IV. THE CFS MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK

Statement by Norway

Chair and colleagues -

- The CFS is the main global arena for discussing pressing food security issues and agreeing on policy recommendations, based on scientific advice from the High Level Panel of Experts.
- The CFS annual progress report for the period 2019-2020 shows a high level of activity and a large number of processes.
- However, allow me to re-iterate the concerns Norway raised at last year's CFS. Is the committee delivering according to the intentions of the 2009 reform?
- The number of processes and work-streams under the CFS is in our view too high.
- A number of activities are planned from now until 2023, according to the update of the rolling section of the MYPOW in doc. CFS 2021/47/4.
- Allow me to underline caption b) from the beginning of this document: "*notes that the full implementation of the MYPoW 2020-2023 will be contingent upon sufficient financial and human resources, taking into consideration a manageable workload, ...*"
- This is indeed an important reminder to us all to ensure that the CFS seeks to have a manageable workload.
- This, in turn, impacts on the committee's legitimacy and efficiency, and is therefore a joint responsibility for us all.
- In the next two years, we are embarking on a process to develop voluntary guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition.
- My delegation supports this work wholeheartedly as a long-standing champion of women's rights and gender equality.
- We also support the proposed Terms of Reference for this work as they are spelt out in document CFS 2021/47/5,
- We must, however, ensure that the process leads to a focussed set of guidelines providing added value and leading to empowerment and rights of women in the context of food security and nutrition.

- In closing, chair and colleagues, allow me to point out that the list of achievements listed in the Inf18-document "CFS Annual Progress Report 2019-2020" is impressive in numbers and outreach.
- Yet, the importance of the work of the CFS should be measured more by the level of uptake of its policy recommendations and by the importance of the committee as the central UN body in the field of food security and nutrition.
- To achieve this, we should seek to adjust the activities to a more realistic level. We should re-invigorate the CFS Plenary by reducing the number of items on the agenda of the CFS and thus inducing more in-depth exchanges and discussion in the Plenary meetings.

Thank you!