

Statement by United Kingdom

Agenda Item V: Update of the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2020-2023

Mr Chair

The United Kingdom thanks the CFS for the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2020-2023 – with the Update of the rolling section, and is ready to endorse it, noting that the full implementation is subject to sufficient financial and human resources. We encourage the CFS in continuing to ensure a manageable workload that prioritises focus on key workstreams where the CFS can add value.

The UK supports the work that is being done on the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition and joins others in looking forward to an ambitious outcome and their being finalised for endorsement. As stated in the Zero Draft of the Guidelines, "Women's and girls' education correlated positively with reducing child malnutrition and improving family diets. Women account for two thirds of the 750 million illiterate adults while literacy can be a powerful tool for fighting hunger."

Indeed, in the context of the G20 and under the UK's Chair of the G7 this year, we've worked to highlight G7 commitment to placing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at the heart of our work to build back better from COVID. The SOFI Report that we discussed yesterday showed us the impact the pandemic has had on food insecurity and nutrition, especially for women and girls who have paid the price of -COVID-19 school closures, often being forced to drop out.

Ensuring open, transparent, reliable data to inform effective decision-making is becoming increasingly important. We particularly welcome this workstream and look forward to the launch of the HLPE report on data collection and analysis 2022, and the process towards the development of Policy Recommendations to be presented for endorsement at CFS 51 in 2023.

Thank-you very much