

CFS Side Event 01: Food Security and Nutrition in Time of Crisis. What Priorities for a Multistakeholder, Coordinated and Comprehensive Global Response?

10 October 2022 – 1.30-2.45 pm CET

Speakers

- Ms. Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, Secretary of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships, France;
- M. Jiří Šir, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Czech Republic
- M. Haladou Salha, African Union-NEPAD Senior Liaison Officer to the Rome-based UN Agencies;
- M. Papa Abdoulaye Seck, Ambassador of Senegal to the Rome-based UN Agencies;
- Ms. Jo Puri, Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department, IFAD;
- M. Joseph Glauber, Head of the Secretariat of AMIS;
- M. Samir Wanmali, Deputy Director, Emergencies and Transition Service Programme, WFP;
- M. Gabriel Ferrero, Chair of the CFS;
- M. Victor Suarez Carrera, Undersecretary for Food Self-sufficiency;
- M. Musa Sow, Second Vice-Chair of the ROPPA;
- M. Giampiero Muci, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission.

The side event was introduced by the French Secretary of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships. She stressed the urgency of the food security situation worldwide and expressed the solidarity of France with the countries which were the most impacted by the effects of the war in Ukraine. She presented the first achievements of the FARM (*Food and Agriculture Resilience Mission*) initiative along its three pillars (trade, solidarity, sustainable production) and described the “Save Crops” operation launched in September 2022 in the margin of the United Nations General Assembly to address the issue of access to fertilizers. She highlighted the key role of the CFS in the response to the food crisis and to accelerate the transition towards sustainable and resilient food systems.

The first roundtable aimed at identifying the main challenges of the food crisis. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Czech Republic recalled that food security was one of the priorities of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union and stressed the importance of the collaboration of the European Union with other international partners such as the African Union, the G7, the G20, the United Nations and the World Bank to ensure food security. The Senior Liaison Officer of the African Union said that the ultimate goal of the transformation of agrifood systems in Africa was to ensure food sovereignty on the continent. The Ambassador of Senegal welcomed the FARM initiative and the Save Crops operation and identified three priorities of the transformation of agrifood systems in Africa (access to context-adapted technologies, infrastructure investments, promotion of sustainable and productive food environments). The Head of the Secretariat of AMIS stressed the importance of international trade for food security as well as of information and data sharing, in particular regarding to food stocks. The Deputy Vice-President of IFAD highlighted the added-value of FARM in addressing simultaneously immediate needs and long-term issues in order to improve the resilience of food systems in the face of future shocks. The representative of WFP highlighted the dual nature of the current food crisis, which implied both humanitarian and development actions.

The second roundtable focused on the role of multilateralism and the CFS in the global response to the crisis to follow up to the CFS-UNGA High-Level Event held in New York on July 18. The Chair of the CFS recalled the function of the CFS as a central and multistakeholder exchange platform and its importance to foster a common understanding of food security and nutrition issues. The Undersecretary of Mexico presented the government’s objective to ensure food self-sufficiency, including through the agriculture ecological transition, the support to smallholders and family farmers and the promotion of healthy diets for all. The West African ROPPA network highlighted the need to foster an international reaction to the crisis which ensured environmentally-friendly, socially-acceptable and economically-viable production. Finally, the European Commission detailed the Team Europe Response to the global food insecurity and dwelled on the need to ensure coordination between all stakeholders and international initiatives.

500 words