CFS 51 (23 – 27 October)
Special Event on the Right to Food (27 October, 10:00 -13:00)

Background:

Food security remains a critical global issue, exacerbated by various challenges such as climate change, conflicts, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Achieving the right to adequate food for all requires concerted efforts and the implementation of effective policies and guidelines. Voluntary guidelines serve as a valuable tool in promoting food security, ensuring access to nutritious food, and addressing the underlying causes of hunger and malnutrition. The Guidelines remind us of the importance of international cooperation and collaboration towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG2.

Through improved coordination, policy convergence and coherence at global level, and contributing to strengthened actions at national and regional levels, the CFS aims at achieving SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and “strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”. The special event intends to highlight CFS’ role in this regard together with CFS’ rage of constituencies.

Objective:

The objective of this Special Event is to frame a constructive dialogue between stakeholders focusing on the interlinkages between Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food and the evolving global food security and nutrition context. The event aims to highlight the importance of voluntary guidelines, a forward-looking CFS’ role in realizing the right to adequate food, share country experiences, and explore strategies for strengthening their implementation to address food security challenges reflecting on ongoing efforts to this end, following the SDG summit, ahead of the 20th anniversary of the right to food voluntary guidelines and right to food in the context of food systems transformation.

Key Themes and Questions:

- Voluntary Guidelines for Food Security:
- Country Experiences and Best Practices:
- Strengthening Implementation and Overcoming Challenges:
- Policy Coherence and Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

Format and Participants:

The event will be conducted through in-person participation at the FAO Plenary Hall in Rome, Italy. The session will feature keynote addresses by relevant experts and high-level officials. It will include presentations from Member States sharing their experiences and best practices in implementing

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1 CFS 51 is in a hybrid format. While in-person participation is strongly encouraged, in particular for keynote speakers and panelists, a remote connection is also possible if requested.
Voluntary guidelines for food security. The event will also provide opportunities for interactive discussions and exchanges among all stakeholders.

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. Increased awareness and understanding of the role of voluntary guidelines in promoting food security and the right to adequate food.
2. Continuous and increased engagement of CFS Members and participants leveraging the CFS policy guidance’ contributing to global food and nutrition security in the context of right to food and food systems transformation following the SDG Summit.

| I – Opening remarks & setting the scene | Time  
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| CFS Chair to open the session with opening remarks | 5 min  
| **Moderator:** Marcela Villareal, Director, Partnerships and UN Collaboration (FAO), to outline objective of the session and introduce the panelists | 5 min  
| **Keynote speaker,** Michael Fakhri, SR RtF | 10 min  
| **Video Message,** Deputy High Commissioner, Nada Al-Nashif, OHCHR | 3 min  
| **Keynote speaker,** Renato Maluf, former president of CONSEA – by remote connection | 7 min  
| **Keynote speaker,** Michael Windfuhr, Academia | 7 min  
| **Keynote speaker,** Nadra Saleh Abdi, Member of Parliament of Somalia - – by remote connection | 7 min  

| II – Moderated panel discussion | Time  
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| STORY TELLING – short “story telling” videos from different countries and constituencies on good practices and challenges met on the Right to adequate Food in the context of the current food crisis. |  
| **High-Level representatives from:** |  
| o **Europe (Switzerland),** H.E. Thierry Apotheloz, State Councillor, Department of Social Cohesion | 7 min  
| o **India (TBC)** | 7 min  
| o **Kenya TBC** | 7 min  
| o **Videomessage from Germany** | 3 min  

| III - Plenary discussions- Q&A from the floor: Guiding Questions to be included | Time  
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| **Floor Interventions** |  
| Participants are invited to ask the panelists questions and comment on the presentations based on their experiences. Panelists and audience members will have the opportunity to debate and discuss their experience in applying the CFs policy recommendations, including the role of the RBAs in their implementation at global, regional, country, and local levels. This segment is expected to a dynamic interaction, civil society, consumer orgs, farmers and Indigenous Peoples orgs, academia. | ~60 min  

| IV - Wrap up and conclusions | Time  
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| Christophe Golay to deliver closing remarks | 7 min  

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CFS Chair to close the session