

V. CFS strategic direction toward 2030

DATE: 22 October 2024

TIME: 15.00-18.00 (exact time to be advised)

LOCATION: Plenary Hall, FAO Headquarters, Rome

Statement by Karol Kissane, Head of Public Sector Services & Economics of IFAC,
on behalf of the CFS Private Sector Mechanism

Madame Chair,

Let me thank you and the secretariat and reaffirm the importance of the CFS to the private sector.

Work in the MYPOW is moving ahead, and we look forward to the endorsement tomorrow of the Recommendations on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition as evidence of this.

We are ready for ‘Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems’. In this regard, the FAO’s focus in the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World for 2023 on ‘urbanization, agrifood systems transformation and healthy diets across the rural–urban continuum’ provides an important input to those discussions. The broad PSM membership, which already includes those engaged in peri-urban and urban food systems, will provide a good basis for the OEWG to provide the partnership and country level experience to develop practical and replicable knowledge and innovation.

We welcome the focus on the need for uptake of CFS products, a perspective that PSM has continually emphasised, particularly the impact at country level and PSM would welcome the possibility to engage, at country level with member states, mechanisms, and partners to further develop the uptake workstream.

The PSM looks forward to contributing to the development of the HLPE Report on 'Building resilient food systems' and the consultation process that will proceed the preparation of the first draft.

Madam Chair, noting the focus of the SOFI 2024 on recommendations for more efficient use of innovative financing tools, and for reforms to the food security and nutrition financing architecture, we welcome the proposed High-Level Forum in 2025 on 'Strengthening Responsible Investment and Financing for Food Security and Nutrition', as supported by PSM, several member states and IFAD. We hope that it will both build on the analyses of the SOFI report and inform subsequent discussions on finance for development.

CFS members have noted today that "full implementation of the MYPoW 2024-2027 will be contingent upon sufficient financial and human resources, taking into consideration a manageable workload". We welcome the provision of estimated costs over the current MYPoW period and would encourage the Secretariat to continue to provide this to members through the Advisory Group and Bureau, together with elements of core budget and where there are likely to be budget shortfalls. As agreed in last year's Plenary, we note the Plenary decision to include a Mid-term Review in 2025 to assess and adjust, if necessary, the remaining elements of the MYPoW.

It is a pleasure working together Madam Chair, Thank you.