



Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG)

CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW)

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CFS OEWG-MYPoW Meeting # 1

Date: 18 March 2016

Time: 9.30 – 12.30

Location: Oval Room, IFAD

Initial Proposal

I. INTRODUCTION

At its 43rd Plenary Session in October 2016, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) will be asked to agree on the HLPE reports to be presented in 2018 and 2019. For this reason, the primary objective of the MYPoW OEWG this year is to get consensus on the topics and technical issues to be addressed by these reports and finalize a proposal to be presented for plenary endorsement.

The 42nd Session of CFS approved a revised guidance note for the selection of CFS activities which provides an overview of the different steps as well as the criteria to be met throughout the process.

In line with the note, the process begins with an initial set of potential topics and related activities, prepared by the CFS Secretariat and MYPoW OEWG Chair, in consultation with technical units of the three Rome-based agencies.

This initial proposal was prepared by reviewing the topics proposed and issues raised in the 2014 HLPE note on “Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition” together with the outcomes of previous CFS work with the intention of presenting a preliminary list of initiatives that meet the minimum selection criteria set in the approved guidance note. This exercise is intended to inform the discussions of the MYPoW OEWG by providing a solid starting point to support the discussions on the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work for 2018-2019.

OEWG members will be invited to respond to these with a view to finding political consensus on the priorities for the CFS agenda. This does not preclude the possibility of OEWG members proposing additional topics and themes that have a strong rationale for inclusion in CFS work and generate support among members.

After the Committee agrees on HLPE themes at CFS 43, the OEWG will continue its discussions on the remaining programme of work for 2018-19, with a view to presenting the MYPoW 2018-2019 at CFS 44 in 2017.

II. ANALYSIS OF PAST AND CURRENT CFS ACTIVITIES

The preparation of the proposal started with an analysis of past and current CFS activities to assess what follow-up action had taken place in relation to past policy recommendations (Table 1) and workstreams (Tables 2 and 3) and to consider the suggestions made in the HLPE note on “Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition” released in 2014 (table 5).

Past and current CFS activities

Table 1.

HLPE REPORTS	FOLLOW-UP	OTHER RELEVANT WORK
Price volatility and food security (2011)	Policy recommendations 2011	
Land tenure and international investment in agriculture (2011)	Policy recommendations 2011	RAI principles 2014 and VGGT 2012
Food security and climate change (2012)	Policy recommendations 2012	
Social protection for food security (2012)	Policy recommendations 2012	
Biofuels and food security (2013)	Policy recommendations 2013	
Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (2013)	Policy recommendations 2013	Connecting Smallholders to Markets Forum 2015
Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (2014)	Policy recommendations 2014	
Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems (2014)	Policy recommendations 2014	
Water for food security and nutrition (2015)	Policy recommendations 2015	
Sustainable agricultural development for FSN including role of livestock (expected in 2016)	It will lead to policy recommendations(2016)	
Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition (expected in 2017)	It will lead to policy recommendations(2017)	
Nutrition and food systems (expected in 2017)	Process to be defined	Feed into Nutrition workstream

Table 2.

PAST CFS THEMATIC WORKSTREAMS	OUTCOMES	OTHER WORK
Gender, food security and nutrition	Policy recommendations (2011)	Forum on Women’s empowerment (2017)
Methods to estimate the number of hungry	Recommendations adopted in Plenary (2011)	
Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure, Land, Fisheries, Forests in the context of national food security	Plenary endorsement (2012)	Stocktaking progress in 2014 and 2016
Global Strategic Framework for FSN	Plenary endorsement (2012)	Periodic Update 2016-2017
Mapping FSN actions at country level	Technical Workshop (2012)	
Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems	Plenary endorsement (2014)	
Framework for Action for Food Security in Protracted Crises	Plenary endorsement (2015)	High Level Experts Forum on food insecurity in protracted crises (2012)

Building knowledge, skills, and talent development of youth	Special Event at CFS 42	
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Table 3.

CURRENT CFS THEMATIC WORKSTREAMS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
CFS engagement with SDGs	Proposal on how CFS can support implementation of related SDGs (Oct 2016)
CFS role and contribution to nutrition	Proposal on future CFS work on Nutrition (Oct2016)
Connecting Smallholders to Markets	Recommendations and practices (Oct 2016)
Urbanization and Rural Transformation	Forum in October 2016 and follow-up in 2017
Women’s empowerment	Forum in October 2017

III. THE PROPOSAL

Table 4. Potential topics and activities for CFS MYPoW 2018-2019

WORK OF THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (HLPE)	
Report on Integrating climate change into food security and nutrition strategies	Proposal a)
Note on Critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition	Proposal b)
Report on Increasing role of financial markets in food security and nutrition	Potential follow-up to HLPE note on emerging issues
CFS WORKSTREAMS	
Follow-up to HLPE report on Integrating Climate Change into Food Security and Nutrition Strategies	Proposal a)
CFS Forum on Financing Investment in Inclusive and Sustainable Food Systems	Proposal b)
CFS Multi-stakeholder dialogue on Trade and Food Security and Nutrition	Proposal c)
Session on South-South and Triangular Cooperation	Proposal d)
CFS engagement with SDGs	
CFS role and contribution to nutrition	
Women’s empowerment	Potential follow-up to Forum
MYPoW	
Monitoring	
Rules of Procedure WG	

WORK OF THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (HLPE)

The 2014 HLPE note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition

In 2013, the HLPE was requested to produce a note on critical and emerging issues in the area of food security and nutrition¹. The note was released in August 2014 and informed the discussions of the OEWG for the preparation of the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work for the biennium 2016-

¹ CFS 2013/40/9, Annex 1 “Guidance note for selection and prioritization of CFS activities” (2013). Paragraph 7. Page 3 of 13

2017. The Committee at its 42nd Session agreed that this note should be updated every four years and released before the period of work of the MYPoW OEWG².

Table 5.

THEMES FROM HLPE NOTE ON CRITICAL AND EMERGING ISSUES	RELATED WORK
Healthy nutrition in changing food systems	Workstream on nutrition (2016) and HLPE Report on nutrition and food systems (2017)
Livestock systems in FSN	HLPE report on sust. agr, including livestock (2016)
Inequalities and FSN	Fora on urbanization and rural transformation (2016) and women’s empowerment (2017), HLPE Report on nutrition and food systems (2017) and connecting smallholders to markets (2016)
Increasing role of financial markets in FSN	
Pathways to sustainable food systems	HLPE report on sust. agr, including livestock (2016) and forum on urbanization and rural transformation (2016) and HLPE Report on food losses and waste (2014)

With regards to the themes suggested in the HLPE note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition, the one on “Healthy nutrition in changing food systems” has been considered in the preparation of the MYPoW 2016-2017 and contributed to the decision to carry out a thematic workstream in 2016 to agree on CFS role and contribution to nutrition and to request an HLPE report on nutrition for 2017.

The suggestions in the HLPE note concerning “Livestock systems and food security and nutrition: challenges and opportunities” and “Pathways to sustainable food systems: the pursuit of human and environmental health for all” influenced the decision to mandate the HLPE to produce a report on “Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock”. The report is not yet available to enable an informed assessment of the extent to which the HLPE report will adequately address the issues raised in both proposals. It is also relevant to the activity on urbanization and rural transformation.

The topics mentioned in the proposal on “Inequalities and food security and nutrition: the imperative of addressing the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable populations” influenced the MYPoW decision to hold forums on “Urbanization, rural transformation and implications for food security and nutrition” (2016) and “Women’s empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition” (2017), and is also relevant to the current work on connecting smallholders to markets and the preparation of the HLPE report on Nutrition and Food Systems (2017).

Discussions were held within the MYPoW OEWG in 2015 concerning the fifth proposed topic, “The increasing role of financial markets in food security and nutrition”, but no support for including this topic in the CFS programme of work was provided at the time. However, it may warrant reconsideration as an HLPE report theme for the 2018-19 MYPoW.

² CFS 2015/42/12, Annex 1, “Guidance note for selection of CFS activities” (2015).

In light of the above considerations and following consultations with the RBAs, the CFS Secretariat and the MYPoW OEWG Chair have drafted an additional HLPE report proposal for discussion as described in a) below.

a) HLPE Report on Integrating Climate Change into Food Security and Nutrition Strategies

Climate change is widely recognized as one of the major and increasing sources of pressure on agriculture and food systems globally and was the subject of a CFS HLPE report in 2012 which informed the discussions of a roundtable at CFS 39 resulting in the adoption of policy recommendations. In 2016, Parties of the climate change convention will start the discussion related to agriculture and the identification of adaptation measures, agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience. Given the evolving context for addressing climate change in agriculture and food systems, including a number of new initiatives, the new commitments made under the Paris Agreement (COP 21), and the strong emphasis on sustainability and resilience in the 2030 Agenda, including SDG 2, it is timely for the HLPE to take stock of new developments and their implications for food security and nutrition. In particular, growing international convergence around the need to balance objectives of improved food production, nutrition impact, and climate change adaptation and mitigation, opens up a complex policy agenda that is challenging for countries at all levels of development. In light of this, it is proposed that six years after the endorsement of policy recommendations on food security and climate change at CFS in 2012, a 2018 HLPE report may take stock of new evidence, new challenges, and provide policy-relevant, evidence based advice around the following:

- ✓ How to achieve inclusive and nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems while simultaneously mitigating agriculture's contribution to climate change, and adapting to the impact of climate change, taking stock of emerging knowledge about the nexus between agriculture, nutrition and climate as well as of multiple-win sustainable practices and technologies;
- ✓ The policy implications of new and emerging knowledge and multiple-win sustainable practices and technologies, with a focus on those which directly empower the food insecure and those who produce the bulk of the food consumed in developing countries;
- ✓ Evidence and lessons from the experience of countries in addressing the policy-relevant recommendations agreed in 2012;
- ✓ Identifying a possible further agenda for policy convergence for CFS, in light of, inter alia, the Paris Agreement and the related national plans, the 2030 Agenda, and ICN2.

CFS value added and contribution to CFS objectives

CFS is uniquely positioned to address this issue, because of its mandate, its ability to bridge between a scientific discussion on the issue and a multi-stakeholder political and practice-informed discussion, and the fact that it already has a sound basis to build on in the form of the previous HLPE report. It would be important for CFS to consider the challenge of integrating climate change into policies and programs related not only to the agriculture sector but to food systems broadly speaking and balancing considerations of climate change adaptation and mitigation with considerations of nutritional impact, as well as eradicating hunger and promoting social inclusion. This initiative would therefore fill a clear gap and contribute to fulfilling CFS mandate by

strengthening country capacity to formulate policies that balance these objectives and that are informed at the same time by scientific evidence and by the different views and concerns of different constituencies directly affected both by climate change and by persisting nutrition challenges.

Relevance and global impact

In consideration of the implications of commitments of the Paris agreements for agriculture and food systems and the attention devoted to resilience and adaptation in SDG 2 and the focus on actions against climate change of SDG 13, the proposed topic raises relevant issues for food security and nutrition which are highly debated at the global level. In addition to the potential contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this workstream could also influence the design of policy measures, initiatives and investments required for the implementation of the agreements of COP 21 which will enter into force in 2020.

No duplication

As mentioned, the proposed approach provides a different perspective and would contribute to bridge scientific discussions to policy level. The report is not supposed to duplicate the relevant work done by other bodies and institutions given also the characteristics of this process, such as the inclusive and participatory research approach and the capacity of CFS to specify the areas it wishes to see addressed to maximise the relevance of the report for CFS work.

Knowledge and evidence

There has been substantial research and a high number of country, regional and global initiatives focused on climate change and agriculture since 2012, particularly to inform the discussions leading to COP 21. There is substantial evidence base to draw on.

Rome-based agencies support

All the three RBAs are engaged on this theme which represents a priority area of focus with major impact on their work.

Available resources

Extra-budgetary funding would be required – the HLPE is 100% voluntarily funded, through a Multi-Donor Trust Fund, at an average cost of \$1.4 million per year.

b) Request to the HLPE to produce a note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition

The Committee at its 43rd session in October 2016 may request the HLPE to produce a note on critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition to be released by October 2017. According to the agreed MYPoW process, this note is expected to provide an evidence-based perspective to help CFS stakeholders prioritize future actions and attention on a limited number of critical policy-relevant areas.

The note will present a list of issues with a relevant impact on food security and nutrition which would deserve to be included in the CFS agenda. Considering CFS's efforts to contribute to advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the note could support CFS work on identifying policy gaps and challenges impeding country progress on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture, by highlighting thematic areas cutting across goals or targets, which are not addressed directly or individually by the 2030 Agenda, and which may call for further CFS policy convergence work in order to achieve the SDGs and their targets. The Committee could also decide to consider the HLPE Note on Critical and Emerging issues as a possible contribution to support the global thematic reviews conducted in the High Level Political Forum, in particular with regards to the HLPF's mission to "address new and emerging issues and look into the long term".

It is important that the issues presented in the document describe how they meet the criteria in the MYPoW guidance note, to demonstrate the value add of CFS working on them, together with a rationale for the type of activity and related outcome that would best address the proposed topic (eg. HLPE report or other activity). This would facilitate the work of CFS stakeholders who are mandated to select the appropriate topics and activities that should be carried out by the Committee in the following biennium.

CFS WORKSTREAMS

While the priority in 2016 is for the OEWG to determine the HLPE reports CFS will request, with more time available to determine the rest of the CFS workplan for 2018-19, it is nonetheless useful to have a preliminary outline of how the full workplan might look. The detailed discussion at OEWG level aiming at selecting the CFS workstreams will take place after CFS 43.

First of all, pending the outcomes of the current OEWGs and subsequent plenary decision, there may be activities arising from the thematic workstreams on Sustainable Development Goals and Nutrition that continue in the next biennium. In addition, the MYPoW OEWG may wish to consider undertaking follow-up activity to the Forum on Women's Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition.

In addition, the MYPoW and Monitoring OEWGs will continue their work in the next biennium, and there remains the possibility of the Working Group on Rules of Procedure being resumed, which may be required if recommendations that may arise from the planned CFS evaluation are supported by the Committee and require follow up work.

Beyond the above, a number of possible activities have been outlined by the CFS Secretariat and the MYPoW OEWG Chair, based on inputs from the RBAs, in order to define the context and inform future discussions.

a) Follow-up to the HLPE report on Integrating Food Security and Nutrition Concerns into Climate Change strategies

Should there be support for an HLPE report on integrating food security and nutrition concerns into climate change strategies, and in order to give more visibility and promote better use of the HLPE report, its launch could represent the first step of a more in-depth process of considering the report and its policy-relevant advice. The report launch could be followed by a one-year workstream on the

topic which would lead to the adoption of policy recommendations and practices at plenary level in 2019. The proposed process would also bring CFS stakeholders to dedicate more attention to the outcomes of the work of the HLPE and to identification of the technical aspects raised in the reports which need to be further addressed at political level.

The launch of the report could be followed by a dedicated learning event to share experiences in integrating agriculture and food systems into their climate change strategies, as well as to report on experiences of successful international coordination to strengthen adaptation capacity in agriculture and the management of natural resources underpinning food systems.

The proposed workstream will then build on the content of the HLPE report and the outcomes of the learning event.

b) CFS Forum on Financing Investment in Inclusive and Sustainable Food Systems

Financing investment in agriculture and food systems is a critical precondition for the realization of the 2030 Agenda. Ending hunger, nutrition, agriculture and rural development are highlighted in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for financing for development (AAAA) as one broad area where more and better investments, underpinned by adequate financing, can deliver benefits across the 2030 Agenda. It is generally agreed that agriculture and food systems are areas where the financing gap is large, and where a combination of public and private financing is required to support investment.

Estimating financing needs to invest in the realization of SDG 2 has proved a complex undertaking, as the variables involved are many and mostly entangled with variables related to other SDGs and a wide range of areas of interventions with different challenges and policy solutions or business approaches from a financing perspective. These do not lend themselves to easy disaggregation for analytical purposes, making it difficult for concerned stakeholders to provide a coherent policy response for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Moreover, financing is only one of the elements needed to enable investment, and one – albeit a very important – aspect of the so-called "means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

In this context, there are at least two major sets of issues that require discussion and where progress would benefit from greater policy convergence internationally. The first relates to whether mechanisms are in place internationally and at country level to mobilize adequate sources of finance to channel towards the agriculture and agri-food sectors. This includes issues of domestic resource mobilization and budgeting, official development assistance and other international public financing flows, and the role of financial markets and private financiers. The second set of issues relates to approaches to the delivery of finance for investment to operators in the agriculture and agri-food sectors, notably, in line with SDG 2, smallholder farmers and rural and agri-food small and medium enterprises, on a gender equal manner.

The proposed CFS Forum may address either one or both sets of issues, with a focus on challenges, policy solutions, and viable programmatic and business models. In relation to the second set of issues, for instance, it may focus on how to improve the supply of finance and the delivery of complementary financial services to support the capacity of smallholders and of MSMEs operating in the food sector to invest, to attract and use productively investment finance, and to manage investment-related risks. It would address this set of issues from a perspective of rural and agri-food

financial inclusion as a critical enabler of inclusive and sustainable food systems. In order to do so, the forum would bring together the full range of CFS stakeholders, and other actors from the development finance community. This exercise would closely complement the provisions of the VGGT and the RAI, both of which address specific aspects of the overall challenge of mobilizing and enabling responsible investment in agriculture and food systems.

An alternative option, related to addressing the first set of issues, would bring CFS to address ways to mobilize additional resources at the country and international levels to channel development finance to agriculture and food systems. It may review trends and challenges related to ODA to agriculture, the role of South-South Cooperation in this area, trends and emerging practices among the multi-lateral development banks and national development banks, and challenges and promising policy and programmatic approaches to mobilizing private finance – e.g. from financial markets – for investment in this area.

CFS value added and contribution to CFS objectives

There is currently no international policy forum that is addressing the question of financing for investment to agriculture and food systems with a view to promoting a common understanding of needs, challenges, policy gaps, and good practices. CFS would therefore add value to the global effort to implement the SDGs by covering ground that is not covered by others. Given political sensitivities and diverging views and interests related to the subject matter proposed, as well as the important role of private finance and financing for private investment in the debate on implementing the SDGs, the multi-stakeholder nature of CFS work would also add value. In terms of contribution to its mandate, the proposed activity would position CFS to support governments to design viable strategies to finance the achievement of the SDGs and the realization of the right to food. This activity would also in part build on the outcomes of the HLPE report and related policy recommendations on Investing in Smallholder Agriculture for Food Security (2013) and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (2014), albeit shifting the perspective towards the financing angle.

Relevance and global impact

This work would enable CFS to add value to ongoing international debates as well as to processes taking place at the country level, including under the umbrella of the 2030 Agenda, with particular attention to SDG 2 and 17, and the AAAA. Both Agendas indeed stress the importance of financial inclusion, notably of MSMEs, and both in urban and in rural areas.

No duplication

At present, there are no specific efforts to consider the overall financing needs to invest in inclusive and sustainable food systems that can enable progress towards ending hunger, ensuring nutrition and the realization of everyone's right of food, as per the focus of the CFS. As the entry points for such investments are, as said, multiple and complex, addressing them requires defining a clear agenda for policy-oriented research.

Knowledge and evidence

Evidence on trends, gaps, and challenges in the international mobilization of finance for investment in smallholder agriculture and in agri-food systems has been documented in recent years by, inter alia, the Rome-Based Agencies (e.g. at a report presented at the Addis Ababa conference on "Achieving Zero Hunger"). Challenges related to financing investment in smallholders and agri-food SMEs have been documented, inter alia, by international organizations supporting the G20.

Rome-based agencies support

The RBAs can, within their respective mandates and in line with their respective expertise, contribute to the Forum.

c) CFS Multi-stakeholder dialogue on Trade and Food Security and Nutrition

The relationship between trade and food security and nutrition is attracting increased attention on both the trade and the development agendas. Trade is one of the means for achieving the eradication of hunger and malnutrition which represents a key goal in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Global trade in agricultural products is expected to continue to increase over the coming decades, influenced by evolutions in patterns of consumption and production. Trade will increasingly influence the extent and nature of food security and nutrition across all regions of the globe. The challenge, therefore, is how to ensure that the expansion of agricultural trade works for, and not against, the elimination of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

Evidence on the impacts of trade on food security and nutrition, and on the appropriateness of different trade policies in pursuit of these national objectives is mixed. In this context, it is important to shift policy debates away from the pros and cons of specific trade and related policies towards addressing weaknesses in the governance processes through which agricultural and trade policies are designed and implemented.

In most developing countries, agriculture and trade related objectives and strategies are identified through separate prioritization, negotiation and coordination processes, associated with agriculture and trade ministries respectively, and involving different stakeholders, different development partners and different sources of financial support. Poorly articulated linkages between these processes can result in diverging views on the national priorities for the development of agricultural trade, making it difficult for policy-makers to develop coherent policies across sectors. This can ultimately limit governments in finding practical solutions to balancing national priorities in the design of agricultural trade policy and to improving their coherence with regional and global trade frameworks.

Extending the dialogue on these issues within the CFS multi-stakeholder setting would assist in bringing the wider food security and nutrition community towards a common understanding on the key debated issues. The event would be an opportunity to share views on the:

- Impacts of agricultural trade on food security and nutrition and ways to ensure that its expansion and related policies create the necessary conditions to improve food security and nutrition at country level.

- Engagement of trade stakeholders in the development of agricultural strategies and investment plans to increase consideration of the role of trade in attracting investment in agricultural sector development to promote growth and economic transformation.

Country cases will be presented to illustrate the challenges in coordinating agriculture and trade strategies, and possible ways to address these challenges.

Importantly, the event will not enter into discussions related to trade negotiations, which should take place in appropriate fora such as the WTO. The event will not lead to the adoption of any recommendation nor decision by the Committee, but will build shared understanding of the issues.

CFS value added and contribution to CFS objectives

The CFS overall goal is promoting policy convergence in support of food security and nutrition issues. The proposed dialogue would be useful in setting the stage for an improved understanding of how trade policies and strategies could be made more supportive of agricultural development and food security objectives.

The multi-stakeholder nature of CFS could help to foster dialogue among groups of stakeholders that do not typically work together, by offering a neutral environment for different stakeholders to find a common language on trade and food security, which in turn will contribute to facilitate policy dialogue in the context of global negotiations.

Relevance and global impact

Trade is explicitly recognized as one of the enablers for achieving the sustainable development goals (SDG 17), and therefore the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. Growing attention to trade issues also stems from the fact that the relative importance of official development assistance (ODA) is decreasing, and the consequent need to leverage other financing sources.

New visions have been taking shape in response to the evolving global context. Donors are increasingly looking at transforming aid relations into trade relations, and at using ODA as a catalyst for the mobilization of private investment and domestic resources. Developing countries are increasingly looking at boosting (regional) trade to promote structural transformation and increase their capacity to use 'home-grown' domestic resources to support their growth and development.

Trade and related policies can play a major role in creating enabling conditions and incentives to mobilize different sources of finance, and increase investment in agricultural development, thus contributing to economic transformation in developing countries.

These opportunities are reflected in the HLPE note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition which outlines linkages between trade and food security under 3 out of 5 of the identified issues ("Healthy nutrition in changing food systems", "Livestock systems and food security and nutrition: challenges and opportunities" and "The increasing role of financial markets in food security and nutrition").

No duplication

The purpose of the proposed exercise would be to promote a dialogue with a view to bringing a common understanding towards the different issues on the table without foreseeing the adoption of any recommendation or decision. This would not be intended to provide inputs or inform the discussions going on within the framework of other bodies regulating international trade.

Knowledge and evidence

FAO's recently published State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO) could be considered as a relevant source of information for the preparation of the event. It addresses the linkages between trade and food security and the implications of measures intended to address national food security concerns on the one hand, and their effects on the food security of trading partners on the other.

Rome-based agencies support

All RBAs have been giving increased attention to the development of value chains and to working with the private sector, domestic and foreign, to increase investment in agriculture. However, little attention has been given to the role that trade policy can play in supporting the development of agricultural value chains by increasing access to markets, which in turn creates the incentives for companies to invest. The CFS dialogue could therefore provide an opportunity to enhance interaction and coordination among the RBAs on these issues.

d) Session on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

To support progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 2, it will be necessary to tap into the additional expertise, innovations and solutions that already exist in developing countries.

The session could focus on the presentation of country experiences, good practices and government-led solutions and on the discussion and identification of the key "drivers" that make South-South and Triangular cooperation an important means to advance progress towards SDG 2 at the country level. It could take place during CFS plenary and, to further strengthen the outcome of a plenary session, the CFS could also consider organizing an intersessional event.

CFS can provide an important contribution in support of the ongoing efforts of the Rome-based agencies in the identification and promotion of joint "focus initiatives" on South-South exchanges that can truly deepen the impact and quality of solutions that country put in place to achieve SDG 2 until 2030.

CFS value added and contribution to CFS objectives

A session on learning from South-South and Triangular cooperation within CFS would capitalize in its inclusive multi-stakeholder approach to strengthen collaborative action among actors dealing with food security and nutrition. The session would be intended to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, expertise and solutions that can strengthen country capacities and country-led efforts to implement SDG 2 on the ground.

Relevance and global impact

Globally, South-South cooperation has emerged as a major trend over the past few years, making up 12 per cent of total international development assistance worldwide (\$16-19 billion according to the

2014 UN Secretary General Report on South-South cooperation). In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, South-South cooperation has been officially recognized by world leaders in SDG 17 as a key means for implementing the SDGs, including SDG 2. In the context of SDG2, South-South cooperation is both a means of implementation and a way for governments to accelerate nationally-owned efforts in the fight against hunger and malnutrition at home and in other countries in the developing world.

No duplication

Capitalizing on the CFS' multi-stakeholder nature and focus on food security and nutrition, the session would contribute to CFS' coordination and linkages function without duplicating South South discussions in other forums.

Knowledge and evidence

There is wealth of knowledge and expertise that developing countries have built up and accumulated over several decades which is highly relevant for achieving Zero Hunger. Developing regions house a wide variety of solutions (models, policies, methodologies, skill-sets, tools and best practices), many designed and tested indigenously, and adapted to the particular circumstances of and contexts of different countries. The stock of knowledge is expanding constantly and rapidly, and so is the flow of knowledge and expertise among developing countries. Developing countries and UN partners, incl. the RBA, have strengthened their efforts over the past several years/decades to support governments to capture evidence and package country-led expertise that is relevant for Zero Hunger, in order to accelerate impact towards SDG 2 through South-South knowledge sharing.

Rome-based agencies support

Support to South-South Cooperation is a priority for all three RBAs and constitutes an integrated part of their strategic frameworks and programmes to address food insecurity and malnutrition. Within the context of CFS, the RBAs can contribute to a concerted effort supporting and promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in food security and nutrition and sharing experiences in a coordinated manner, through engagement with a broader range of CFS stakeholders.

Resource implications for CFS activities

After CFS 43 where a decision will be taken only on the themes of the HLPE reports, the OEWG will be requested to select the activities to be carried out by the Committee in the next biennium. This selection process should take into due account human and financial resources that are available. Even if the RBAs support to the core budget of CFS, covering the cost of plenary and core Secretariat staff supporting the Bureau and Advisory Group meetings, plenary, the MYPoW, Rules of Procedure and Monitoring work, is confirmed at present levels for the next biennium (\$4 million), all the proposed activities would require extra budgetary contributions. As an indication, on average a CFS workstream costs \$100,000 per year if additional part time staff support, travel for speakers or communications, document translation and interpretation services are required. More detailed resource estimates will be developed as the MYPoW discussions evolve.