



CFS Secretariat
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RE: HLPE Policy Convergence Process for Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, and the roles for livestock

Dear CFS stakeholders,

I am pleased to inform you that the negotiations to agree on decision text representing policy convergence related to *Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, and the roles for livestock* will take place on the 8th and 9th of September 2016 in the Auditorium of the World Food Programme in Rome, Italy. In the event that a room becomes available at FAO, the negotiations will be shifted to take place in one of the larger meeting rooms. The objective is to find consensus on decision text to submit to the CFS Plenary for endorsement in October 2016.

During the informal consultation on the 25th of July, we had an exchange on the substance of the document as well as on the process. The Rapporteur's proposal, circulated together with this letter on the 5th of August, attempts to address the written inputs received and the discussion held on the 25th of July, and will serve as the basis for finding consensus. In the Rapporteur's Proposal, a note is included in brackets to map where each point is coming from (e.g. HLPE recommendations and comments). This text will be removed and only serves as guidance leading up to the negotiation. Where a recommendation is covering an issue not covered in the HLPE recommendations, but requested through the comments provided to the Secretariat and covered in the HLPE report, the note of 'Comments' is included. As an Annex to this letter, a summary of the differences between the HLPE Recommendations and the Rapporteur's Proposal is presented.

I propose the following approach to reaching consensus:

Procedures: The process will follow the rules of procedure established by CFS. It will be facilitated by the Rapporteur and will be supported by the Technical Focal Point and the CFS Secretariat. The Rapporteur may request the assistance of members to facilitate Friends of the Rapporteur discussions, if they are needed.

Format: The Rapporteur will ask for input on any i) change to be made (deletion of a topic or additional topic to be covered), and ii) clarifications on meaning. In the interest of time, the Rapporteur will ask all CFS Members and Participants to abstain from making opening statements, avoid editing and instead target interventions on substantive topics or issues that need to be amended.

Language: In line with usual practice for policy recommendations arising from HLPE reports, the negotiations will be conducted in English and no interpretation will be provided. There will be full interpretation for the plenary discussion and endorsement of recommendations in plenary.

Modalities: The proposed modalities for the negotiation are as follows:

- Priority will be given to regional and group interventions – as such Regional Groups and Participant constituencies are encouraged to form collective positions wherever possible;
- In the interests of time and efficiency, the Rapporteur will consider how many interventions will be heard before coming up with a Rapporteur's Proposal;
- Based on the round of interventions, a Rapporteur's proposal will be then formulated for the paragraphs under discussion and projected on screen in track changes, on which the Rapporteur will ask for agreement. The Rapporteur will determine when and if scribing on screen would help facilitate consensus;
- If there is no agreement, the Rapporteur will call for an additional round of interventions, after which a new Rapporteur's proposal will be formulated and presented in track changes for agreement;
- If no agreement can be reached in the second round, the Rapporteur will encourage a bilateral or smaller group discussion where the issue may need discussion between only a small number of participants, or if it is a matter concerning a larger group, will call for a Friends of the Rapporteur discussion. Friends of the Rapporteur discussions will, if required, be held either over lunch time or late afternoon after the end of plenary session, to resolve outstanding issues.

Sessions: There will be two sessions each day and possibly three (9.30-12.30 and 14.30-17.30 and 18:30 – 21:30). Each session will last three hours unless otherwise decided by the Rapporteur. If needed, the Rapporteur may extend sessions or call for extra night sessions to arrive at consensus by the end of the second day. If it is not possible to come to agreement by the end of the second day, any unagreed language will be bracketed and left for discussion and agreement in the evenings of the 17th, 18th, and 19th of the CFS plenary week.

I strongly urge all CFS Members and Participants to review the Rapporteur's Proposal in detail and share in advance of the September negotiation any key issues requiring changes with the CFS Secretariat, no later than Sunday, September 4th.

All delegations are encouraged to arrive with clear instructions and mandate to agree on the decision text for *Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, and the roles for livestock*.

I am confident that in spirit of cooperation and partnership we will be able to reach a successful conclusion by the 9th September.

Many thanks and looking forward to seeing you in September.

Working together works!

Ambassador Yaya Olaniran

Rapporteur, Policy Convergence Process

Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, and the roles for livestock?

**Summary of Changes from
HLPE Recommendations to Rapporteur's Proposal on
*Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, and the roles for
livestock***

Total number of recommendations have been reduced from:

- 14 recommendations (HLPE) to **10 recommendations (Rapporteur's Proposal)**
- 48 sub-bullets (HLPE) to **31 sub-bullets (Rapporteur's Proposal)**

Total word count reduced from 1,800 (HLPE) to 1,200 words (Rapporteur's Proposal)

In addition to the in text mapping of where text in the Rapporteur's Proposal is coming from, there is a mapping below by Recommendations and by Issues.

Mapping by Recommendations

