

**CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise
January – December 2017**

As per the agreed reporting exercise, CFS Advisory Group members were requested to answer the following four questions concerning the activities undertaken over the period January-December 2017:

1. CONTRIBUTION TO REGULAR CFS ACTIVITIES

- a) Describe work carried out (including number of meetings attended) in support of the various CFS intersessional activities

2. INVOLVEMENT OF THE CONSTITUENCY IN THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

- a) Describe activities carried out to promote the flow of information and inputs between your constituency and CFS to:
 - Provide inputs from your constituency to CFS processes;
 - Represent interests of different entities of your constituency in CFS discussions;
 - Assist the Bureau in the identification of important developments in the area of food security and nutrition at global, regional and national levels.
- b) Suggestions for how your constituency could be further involved in the work of CFS?

3. CONTRIBUTION TO THE DISSEMINATION OF CFS OUTCOMES AND DELIBERATIONS

- a) Describe the main elements of outreach activities undertaken to disseminate the results of CFS work within your constituency
- b) What activities did you undertake to make CFS products known/assist in the use of CFS products at regional and national levels?

4. STRENGTHENING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN ADVISORY GROUP CONSTITUENCIES AND THE COMMITTEE

- a) What activities should be implemented to enhance the interaction between CFS and the different relevant actors on the ground?
- b) What can Advisory Group members do to increase the knowledge about CFS work and results at country level to their constituencies?
- c) Suggestions on how links can be further strengthened?

Reports were submitted by the following members:

- ✓ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- ✓ United Nations World Food Programme (WFP);
- ✓ International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
- ✓ UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food;
- ✓ United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN);
- ✓ Civil Society Mechanisms for Relations with the CFS (CSM);
- ✓ Private Sector Mechanism (PSM);
- ✓ Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
- ✓ World Bank.

Ad hoc participants:

- ✓ World Farmers' Organization (WFO);
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO).

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Question 1a

As a member of the joint CFS Secretariat, FAO continued to provide support to the joint CFS Secretariat, including 1/3 the costs for human and financial resources, physically hosting the Secretariat, providing most of the meeting venues, including for intersessional activities/events and CFS Plenary and associated side and other events, as well as providing translation, interpretation, and associated conference services (messengers, security, IT support, etc.), assistance for administering and managing financial contributions and trust fund support for CFS activities, and legal advice to Plenary and Bureau and Advisory Group, as necessary.

FAO actively participated in the joint Bureau and Advisory group meetings, Open-ended Working Groups (OEWGs) and/or Technical Task Teams (TTT) throughout the intersessional period, including the CFS and the Sustainable Development Goals, Nutrition, Women's Empowerment, Urbanization and Rural Transformation, Monitoring, MYPOW, GSF, as well as the consultations regarding the CFS Evaluation follow-up.

In addition, FAO provided technical support to the policy convergence process on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition. Particularly, substantial technical support was delivered to the Rapporteur throughout the process on the preparation of meetings and required documents in collaboration with the CFS Secretariat. FAO also facilitated the coordination with the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) and the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM), and made its consultative support available to their respective members as requested.

Question 2 a and b

- Regular meetings with FAO team before and after Bureau and Advisory Group meetings;
- Regularly share CFS correspondence throughout FAO, including decentralized offices, regarding requests for inputs to CFS activities;
- SOFI report and emerging issues to help identifying important FSN issues
- FAO technical support was provided to the HLPE Secretariat in several rounds of reviews and assisted the Secretariat with the resource mobilization for the translation of the report on "Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition".
- Regular communication and coordination meetings with CSM and PSM secretariats, prior to the launch of the HLPE and throughout the policy convergence process on "Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition".
- Awareness-raising and promotion of the HLPE report and the CFS 44 through national workshops, publications and several other communication channels (e.g. inFO news).
- FAO provided evidence to allow CFS contribution to the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda, as well as contributed through the TTT to the identification of key opportunities for CFS and its stakeholders to engage in SDG related discussions in Rome and New York.
- FAO provided technical support, through the TTT, to the three CFS intersessional events on nutrition whereby FAO actively participated in the third one: 1) Investments for healthy food systems (9 May 2017); 2) Impact assessment of policies to support healthy food environments and healthy diets (26 May 2017); 3) Achieving the global target for stunting (22 September 2017).
- A first draft of the Work Programme of the United Nations (UN) Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) was reviewed at a meeting of the CFS-OEWG on Nutrition on 10 February 2017. The CFS was mentioned in the UN General Assembly Resolution 70/259 as the multi-stakeholder

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platform to be involved in the implementation of the Nutrition Decade, which is co-convened by FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Question 3 a and b

FAO supports the application of CFS results through several outputs within the Strategic Framework, such as,

- *VGGT* - The VGGTs are applied in various FAO areas of work, such as to improve forest tenure systems, fisheries, nutrition, and partnerships, including the development of [on-line e-learning courses](#), awareness raising workshops at regional and country level, with [indigenous people](#).
- *RAI* - FAO has also been applying the CFS-RAI, including strengthening collaboration on VGGT and RAI Implementation, to showcase several initiatives related, in particular, how these benefits for small-scale producers involved in the development of food value chains. In October 2016, [FAO launched an umbrella programme](#) to support responsible investments in agriculture and food systems, applying the CFS-RAI.
- *FFA* - FAOs' work on protracted crisis, which is guided by the CFS-FFA, emphasizes the linkages between food security, peace and stability, as well as linkages with displacements and migration. The VGGTs are also applied in the context, to support access and tenure to land and natural resources to reduce vulnerabilities of communities, especially in conflict and protracted crises situations, with particular focus on gender, including the development of a [Guidance note for CFS-FFA implementation](#)
- Nutrition – working with WHO and other partners, FAO has helped to ensure that CFS is included in the agendas of the [five Regional Symposiums on sustainable food systems for healthy diets](#) and improved nutrition that were convened during the period September-December 2017. CFS has used these opportunities to hear from regional and national stakeholders their priorities and needs in terms of policy convergence work on nutrition.
- FAO, often in close collaboration with RBAs, PSM and CSM, contributed to the promotion of CFS role, deliberations and products in global and regional SDG related discussions and processes, including in the High-level Political Forum, and included reference to CFS and its deliberations in global documents and reports such as Secretary General report on Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture, and other similar reports, informing policy deliberations of the UN on issues related to CFS mandate.
- FAO, in collaboration with RBAs and other UN members of the AG, supported the organization and dissemination of results of CFS events and activities on SDGs in Rome and New York, and promoted CFS products as key instruments for integrated approaches to achieve sustainable development to be implemented at country level.

Question 4 a,b and c

- Strengthen the interactions with key partners to actively promote CFS principles and the application of CFS results, through bi-lateral discussions, development of projects, designing seminars/side events, etc.;
- Ensure that CFS results are cited/used, where appropriate, in all relevant FAO meetings/seminars and publications, including governing body documents, flagship publications, briefing notes, work planning, etc.
- Ensure sufficient time is allocated in advance to exchange feedback and comments based on the HLPE report to establish the draft final policy recommendations prior to the CFS session.

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Question 1

In 2017, WFP continued to provide financial and in-kind support to the CFS Secretariat. In addition, WFP:

- Contributed to the work of the CFS through active participation as a member of the Advisory Group, Open-Ended Working Groups (OEWGs) and Technical Task Teams (TTTs).
- Engaged in the CFS 44th Session (CFS 44) in October 2017, and in its preparatory processes, at all levels by:
 - Providing strategic inputs, technical advice and support to develop CFS 44 background documents;
 - Co-organizing side events on: (i) sustaining peace and conflict prevention; (ii) the fight against climate change; (iii) school meals and social protection in the Middle East and North Africa; (iv) data and information management for policy-making and social protection; (v) nutrition mainstreaming through RBA collaboration for Africa; (vi) healthy diet and nutritious food; (vii) the social and economic impact of the double burden of malnutrition; (viii) how reducing post-harvest losses can advance the 2030 Agenda.
 - Providing technical support to the following CFS inter-sessional workstreams leading up to CFS 44: (i) Evaluation; (ii) SDGs; (iii) Nutrition; (iv) Urbanization and Rural Transformation; (v) Women's Empowerment; (vi) monitoring.
 - Lending a consultant to the CFS Secretariat for the period September-October to support the rolling out of CFS 44 Information Marketplace and side events, as well as note taking coverage.
- Fully engaged in the follow-up/consultation process on the CFS Evaluation (ongoing), particularly those recommendations concerning WFP. More widely, joint RBA positions and responses were/are developed on recommendations related to the RBAs.
- Hosted OEWG meetings on nutrition and SDGs.
- Contributed to the organization of the three CFS inter-sessional events on nutrition, including financial resources for the third event on stunting.
- Contributed to the organization of the Forum on Women's Empowerment by providing inputs to the background paper, and identifying the keynote speaker, Ms. Helen Hakena.
- With the exception of a few missed meetings due to conflicting commitments, WFP attended all CFS meetings and events.

Question 2a

- WFP identified technical experts/focal points in relevant geographical and technical areas to engage in the CFS work on nutrition, gender and women's empowerment, SDGs, urbanization and rural transformation, monitoring, and evaluation.
- WFP ensured internal technical and non-technical divisions/units participating in the processes leading up to the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work 2018-2019, as well as in relevant CFS meetings and events.
- WFP HQ technical divisions provided inputs to the HLPE studies on Nutrition and Food Systems, Critical and Emerging Issues for FSN. WFP Regional Bureaux and Country Offices contributed to the

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HLPE study on Multi-stakeholder Partnerships to Finance and Improve FSN in the Framework of the 2030 Agenda.

- WFP, alongside FAO and IFAD, provided support and technical expertise to the CFS Secretariat in developing the CFS contributions to the 2017 and 2018 HLPF.
- WFP continued to regularly channel all communications/correspondence from the CFS and HLPE to relevant divisions/field offices on a case-by-case basis, particularly regarding requests for inputs to CFS activities.
- In April, WFP and FAO informed the CFS Bureau Members on the contents of the Global Report on Food Crises 2017. WFP, in particular, highlighted the major challenges being faced in the countries affected by crises/famines.

Question 2b

- Overall, there is room for WFP to be further involved in the CFS if the latter will be able to tackle those key food security and nutrition issues, particularly those that are critical and emerging.
- WFP stands ready to further support the CFS Chair in various outreach efforts, which include the engagement in global/regional/national policy dialogues and fora.
- If requested, WFP stands ready to further supporting countries with the use and application of the CFS policy instruments, and to internalizing the various CFS policy recommendations into our programmes, as relevant.

Question 3a

- WFP, alongside FAO and IFAD, co-organized with the CFS Secretariat a side event on the CFS-FFA/protracted crises during the 2017 HLPF in New York. WFP represented and spoke on behalf of the three RBAs in the side event's panel "A new way of working: A multi-actor perspective on the FFA".
- WFP supported the CFS Secretariat in organizing the two outreach events on enhancing smallholders' access to markets in Abidjan and Addis Ababa. WFP assisted the CFS Secretariat in identifying government counterpart participants. WFP presented its work and initiatives on this topic, as well as how the 2016 CFS policy recommendations on connecting smallholders to markets serve its purpose.
- WFP facilitated CFS Chair's meetings with former WFP Executive Director, Ertharin Cousin, current Executive Director, David Beasley, and Deputy Executive Director, Amir Abdulla.
- Reports and highlights are regularly prepared and shared with WFP Senior Management, as well as relevant divisions/decentralized offices, to inform on the outcomes of CFS work, both during the inter-sessional period and the Plenary week.
- The results of the CFS work is cited, where appropriate, in relevant WFP meetings and publications, including governing body documents.
- Webcast of CFS meetings/events, as well as information about CFS processes and products, are made available on WFP intranet's homepage.

Question 3b

- WFP continued to promote the knowledge of and disseminate relevant CFS policy instruments/outcomes and related information within the Organization at all levels.

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- In particular, WFP has been promoting the awareness of and the application of the CFS policy instruments, where relevant, at country and regional levels in the context of WFP's Country Strategic Plans (CSPs). Advice was provided to Regional Bureaux and Country Offices to call attention to relevant CFS policy instruments when developing and implementing their CSPs.
- The relevant CFS policy instruments, in particular the CFS-FFA, were incorporated in WFP's Strategic Plan 2017-2021 and the joint RBA collaboration paper.
- During WFP Executive Board's induction sessions in January and September 2017, WFP provided new Executive Board members with an overview of WFP's engagement in CFS.
- The annual awareness survey on RBA collaboration, which includes the CFS and its 44th Session, has been launched internally in WFP – both in HQ and in the field.

Question 4a

- The political and strategic leadership role of the CFS Chair is key to raise the CFS' profile at all levels and strengthen the interaction with relevant FSN actors on the ground.
- The CFS Secretariat is in a position to develop information briefs on CFS, its work and functions, to support and facilitate CFS stakeholders' interaction with their constituencies and relevant actors on the ground.
- Likewise, the HLPE could accompany the launch of its reports with a short document containing the main findings and recommendations with a set of key messages to be disseminated to a wide audience on the ground.
- The CFS Bureau Members have the necessary convening power to take up a leading role in outreach activities at country and regional levels.

Question 4b

- Ensure timely correspondence, including through periodic updates, on all CFS-related matters.
- Further actively engage in the Advisory Group, OEWDs and TTTs, as appropriate.
- Strengthen internal communications and preparation to CFS processes/activities.
- Further strengthen advocacy and disseminate the results of the CFS work through various channels (e.g. publications, meetings, seminars, etc.).

Question 4c

- Advisory Group members, including their constituencies, would benefit from regular as well as ad-hoc briefings by the CFS Secretariat on critical issues.
- A briefing session on key outcomes of the annual Plenary session would also be useful.
- As far as WFP is concerned, more CFS meetings could be organized at WFP HQ which would be live webcast both in Rome and in the field. This would in turn help raising the profile of CFS and its work within the Organization.
- The launch of the HLPE reports may also take place at WFP HQ and be live webcast in Rome and in the field.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Question 1

IFAD's work in support of CFS intersessional activities consists of:

- Financial and in-kind support to the CFS Secretariat;
- Active participation in technical task teams of the various CFS workstreams (women's empowerment, rural transformation and urbanization, nutrition, and the SDGs);
- Active participation in Open-ended Working Ground meetings for the various CFS workstreams (MYPoW, monitoring, rural transformation and urbanization, SDGs, nutrition, and women's empowerment);
- Written response and active participation in the process to address the recommendations of the external evaluation of CFS;
- Participation in the CFS Advisory Group and CFS Plenary, including several side events.

In addition, IFAD promotes knowledge of CFS products among its staff and their use in the work of CFS staff at headquarters and in country offices.

Question 2a

In the past year, IFAD staff have contributed to the work of Technical Task Teams and/or Open-ended Working Groups in workstreams on the SDGs, nutrition, rural transformation and urbanization, the MYPoW and monitoring. It has participated in negotiations around the outcomes of the HLPE report on Nutrition. IFAD staff have played an active role in contributing expertise from its knowledge products into the background documents for the workstreams on rural transformation and urbanization, nutrition, and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition. IFAD staff also actively engaged in the three intersessional events on nutrition providing technical support. These have been informed by IFAD operations as well as the inputs of the rural people and farmers organizations with which IFAD works in the process of its activities. Further, IFAD staff have supported the ongoing process around the response to the evaluation of the CFS, participating in all related meetings and contributing to joint RBA responses around specific recommendations as well as providing its own detailed institutional responses. Internal sharing and reporting on work conducted by the CFS is regularly made by IFAD staff to IFAD senior management. In July 2017, a paper on CFS outcomes and IFAD's engagement with Committee was presented to IFAD Operational Management Committee, which gathers directors from across IFAD divisions, including all regional divisions. This paper stressed the Fund's continued commitment to CFS and its support in the way forward reflecting on the outcomes of the CFS evaluation.

Question 2b

The new IFAD President has reconfirmed IFAD's commitment to contribute to the work of the CFS. Hosting OEWG meetings at IFAD and organizing of thematic events, such as the intersessional events on nutrition and the women's empowerment seminar, have played an important role to further involve IFAD staff in the work of the CFS.

Question 3a

Information about CFS processes, products and events is shared with IFAD colleagues. IFAD's also utilizes CFS products and HLPE reports to support approaches that are jointly developed by the RBAs such as the nutrition-sensitive value chains and the resource framework on school feeding, which are

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then disseminated to the staff at global and national levels through workshops, seminars and trainings. Furthermore, IFAD worked with CFS on the organization of HLPF side-events in 2017.

Question 3b

IFAD staff have mentioned CFS products where relevant when speaking at events, for example at the 2017 High-level Political Forum. In 2017, IFAD together with the two other Rome-based Agencies started the implementation in three countries: DRC, The Niger and Somalia, of a joint designed project on resilience building and food security that used the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (FFA) as its bases. This is a great example on how the RBAs, jointly or individually, can use CFS documents. IFAD staff and staff working in IFAD-funded projects also participated in both outreach events organized by CFS, in Addis Ababa (national event) and Abidjan (regional event).

Question 4a

Holding region-level events to launch policy products would raise awareness of CFS outside of Rome. While this may have been done on occasion in the past, the systematic planning of such events would widen the interaction between CFS and non-Rome-based actors. It may also be worth reflecting on the extent to which CFS policy products are easily translatable into national policy contexts. In some cases, an accompanying brief on country-level implementation may serve to ease use at country-level by interested national authorities, though if such a complementary product would need to go through negotiation, this would likely be difficult and time-consuming.

Question 4b

Events at RBAs, both at HQ and in regions where feasible, increase the knowledge of CFS work. There may also be opportunities to showcase CFS products at meetings of farmers groups in the context of IFAD's operations. Further, if launching events were held for CFS products as mentioned above, the invitation of farmer constituencies would obviously be important to raise country-level awareness. In this context, Advisory Group members can work as knowledge broker raising awareness of CFS products in events and among the other staff.

Question 4c

It could be worth reflecting on opportunities for IFAD project beneficiaries to speak at CFS intersessional events, as well as for CFS representatives to speak at IFAD-organized events, both at HQ and in countries, e.g. the CFS Chair spoke at the Rural Development Report 2016 regional roll-out event in Tunis and the SDG2 Expert Group Meeting in New York.

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

Question 1

During the year of 2017 I was not able to attend CFS's meetings due to lack of financial and staff support. I only attended Plenary in October. During the year I tried to follow up some of the meetings depending on technical availability. I am also always available for any specific questions if the CFS secretariat asks me.

Question 2a

As the Special Rapporteur on right to food I have two country mission trips. During these trips I worked closely with governmental bodies and civil society and I had the opportunity to observe whether in country level CFS activities/ products are followed. This year I visited Zambia and Vietnam. In both countries, I got the impression that there was no significant knowledge about the CFS's work. I made clear that especially regulatory bodies should follow the CFS products to receive useful policy recommendations.

During the 2017 mandate trips I observed that countries are taking nutrition related issues more seriously than used to be. Still there are significant problems in relation to nutrition in Zambia and Vietnam particularly about children. Also in general, the role of women in agriculture is not recognized in practice despite legal structure was developed. There are serious issues in relation to land ownership, especially in customary land system. Therefore small holder/subsistence farmers are very vulnerable. Child labor in agriculture, especially in relation to fertilizer and chemical use is a huge problem. Finally, foreign investments are creating serious human rights violations as the governments are willing to open farmlands to big agricultural investments without following environment and human rights principles. More information about the specific problems and good practices my reports are available to the Bureau in there is an interest.

Question 2b

I think publicity and dissemination of the CFS's work is absolutely crucial. Also training programs in country level is necessary. I always include recommendations to my reports to follow CFS activities. Financial support/investment in the area of training makes huge difference. Social media would be effective in more developed countries, but this does not make any impact on in remote parts of developing countries. Civil society could be effective to bring the knowledge to the ground level.

Question 3a

I answered this question above

Question 3b

I participated several academic and NGO level meetings. In these meetings I tried to focus on the CFS's new role after 2009, the importance and multi stakeholder feature, as well as specific products. The reports of the HLPE is also very important reference/resource for academic work.

Question 4c

I think these issues are discussed in several meetings in recent years. There needs to be practiced as soon as possible. This is of course very much depending on financial power of the CFS. More action in country level, communication with the grass roots organizations, supporting civil society are crucial steps that should be taken as soon as possible.

United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (UN-SCN)

Question 1

- UNSCN secretariat has participated in all Advisory group meetings in 2017. During these meetings information/ideas were provided regarding links UNSCN could establish between CFS processes and other UN System processes in the area of nutrition (examples are: Committee on Status of Women, World Health Assembly, High Level Political Forum). Because of its technical support of its members as well as the neutral space it offers for new and emerging issues related to nutrition, UNSCN is often asked to provide (technical) inputs to these fora. Being at these fora, UNSCN can ensure CFS messages are heard where they are otherwise not heard, moreover in this way UNSCN can maximize coherence of messaging across the UN System, beyond Rome.
- UNSCN has co-organized (as part of the TTT) three inter-sessional events about nutrition and provided back-ground documents and speakers to two of them and moderated one of them.
- UNSCN has been part of all other TTTs integrating nutrition and nutritional aspects in the other work streams of CFS where possible and relevant. In addition UNSCN has participated in most OEWG meetings, often visualizing the opportunities to link work streams and do cross-fertilization.

Question 2a

UNSCN holds bi-monthly telephone conferences as well as bi-annual face to face meeting with its members. The CFS Secretariat participates in these meetings as an observer, thus ensuring a good flow of information. More informally, there are excellent working relations between the UNSCN secretariat and the CFS Secretariat. In case the CFS sends out specific requests for inputs e.g. through the FSN-forum, or questionnaires regarding the CFS work plan, UNSCN forwards this to its members or even distributes wider through its list-serves, reaching thousands of additional people worldwide.

UNSCN's membership goes beyond the RBAs. UNSCN has informed UNEP about the forestry negotiations and with Bioversity nutrition-related discussion points were shared during the negotiation process. UNICEF has been informed about and involved in several activities throughout the year, this may have triggered their interest for CFS processes: UNICEF is now part of the TTT for nutrition.

Regarding important food and nutrition developments: UNSCN has contributed to the call by the HLPE regarding emerging issues. The topics brought forward by the UNSCN members have been elaborated upon in a short desk review that informs the UNSCN agenda for 2018/2019. When relevant UNSCN is willing to share any new discussion papers or information resulting from UNSCN's attendance in scientific conferences

Question 2b

UNICEF has now accepted to be part of the nutrition TTT. In practice it may not always be possible to participate in calls or meetings due to the distance and time difference. However UNSCN will actively

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involve its members (including UNwomen and other relevant agencies) to contribute to CFS when and where relevant. UNSCN has a good entry to many relevant UN agencies and is still seeking to expand its membership base which can also serve CFS by a more complete and comprehensive UN input into CFS deliberations.

Question 3a

UNSCN has pro-actively informed UNHCR and OCHA regarding the FFA (protracted crisis) and advised them to distribute and use the FFA whenever needed and relevant. UNSCN will make sure that other formal outcomes and reports will be distributed to relevant members beyond the RBA's (and WHO) who are part of the AG.

Question 3b

UNSCN is active at global level, not at national nor regional level. However there are several opportunities when UNSCN secretariat is invited to regional meetings or other events. During these events UNSCN can and does take the opportunity to inform participants about CFS and its products, at the same time calling on people to engage actively in CFS processes. An example is the FAO/WHO regional symposium about sustainable food systems for healthy diets in the European/Central Asia region during which UNSCN informed participants about CFS existing and upcoming products and the need to engage actively to ensure regional perspective in the CFS products. Another example in 2018 was the presentation of the IFPRI Global Food Policy Report 2017 about urbanization. During this event (in Brussels) UNSCN took the opportunity to inform the participants about CFS ongoing work in the area of rural and urban transformation.

Question 4a

Of course it is the primary responsibility of a countries government to inform and ensure as much as possible that CFS products are being used at country level. In order to support country level endeavors regional groups may want to actively involve relevant regional (food security) bodies. In addition inventories could be done at country level what food security and nutrition networks or implementing structures are present; CFS products may be channeled to these networks and structures to support national governments' efforts.

Question 4b

UNSCN is not active at country level, however it continues to call on its members, the UN agencies, to use and disseminate CFS products at country level. UNSCN is now undertaking a desk review in a number of selected countries to find out how global UN guidance and UN collaboration is being shaped at country level. This work may also reveal the level of uptake of certain CFS products. It should be noted that the UNSCN review focuses on nutrition and a specific CFS nutrition product is yet to be developed. The current review may however come forward with advice how to go about the uptake of future CFS products regarding nutrition.

Question 4c

Intersessional events last year have served to inform CFS in Rome about developments of policies and actions at country level, by inviting country representatives to be part of panel discussions. Possibly intersessional events that take place in the context of the OEWG about monitoring the uptake of CFS products could be a way to get more country experiences to CFS and vice versa. During plenary meetings in October these country experiences are also brought to Rome, however making

use of the intersessional period may strengthen these links throughout the year. However, there would be budgetary consequences.

Civil Society Mechanism for relations with the CFS (CSM)

Question 1

CSM has facilitated the **participation of civil society organizations to all CFS workstreams, and all related meetings and events during the intersessional period**. This included the participation and contributions to the CFS Workstreams on Nutrition, SDGs, Urbanization and Rural Transformation, Women's Empowerment, Monitoring, CFS Evaluation, MYPOW, Sustainable Forestry, GSF and future HLPE reports. For each of these CFS workstreams, there is a Policy Working Group of the CSM. Inputs from the CSM to workstream and meetings during the intersessional period can be found in three languages on the respective subpages of the CSM Website <http://www.csm4cfs.org/policy-working-groups/>

The CSM attended and **contributed to all Joint Meetings of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group**. These contributions are as well publicly accessible in three languages on the respective subpage of the CSM website: <http://www.csm4cfs.org/csm-contributions-to-the-cfs-agbureau-meeting/>
The **CSM Forum 2017** was held on the weekend before the CFS 44 Plenary. It was attended by more than 215 participants from all CSM constituencies, Working groups and regions. The CSM Forum discussed and **finalized the contributions to all items on the agenda of the CFS 44** which are as well documented on the CSM website in three languages: <http://www.csm4cfs.org/csm-opening-statements-famines-crisis/> ; <http://www.csm4cfs.org/csm-plenary-statements-cfs-44/> ; <http://www.csm4cfs.org/csm-final-statement-cfs-44/>

Question 2a

Inputs from constituencies: The CSM comprises 11 global constituencies: smallholder and family farmers, indigenous peoples, fisherfolks, pastoralists, food and agricultural workers, landless, women, youth, consumers, urban food insecure, and NGOs. The inputs from the CSM to CFS processes are mainly discussed and formulated through the CSM Working Groups dedicated to each of the specific CFS workstream. In addition, the CSM Advisory Group facilitates the contributions from the CSM Working groups and Coordination Committee to the CFS Advisory Group and CFS Bureau. The CSM Forum finalizes the CSM contributions to the CFS Plenary and discusses and agrees on the more long-term CSM proposals for priorities of the CFS agenda.

Interests of constituencies: The interests of the 11 constituencies are facilitated through a) the CSM Policy Working Groups which are open to all global, continental and national participating CSOs. These Working Groups have numerous members, some of them more than 100 members; b) the CSM Coordination Committee (CC), composed by these 11 global constituencies and delegates from 17 sub-regions; c) the CSM members to the CFS Advisory Group, elected by the CC; and d) the Annual CSM Forum which gathers more than 200 delegates from participating CSOs.

Identification of important developments: CSM co-organized with CFS members (Norway, Brazil, Switzerland and South Africa) an event in January 2017 on how the CFS should advance the Right to Food and accountability agenda.

CSM also supported strongly the CFS Chair's initiatives for making the CFS more responsive to famines and severe food crises, and presented a concrete proposal to the CFS 44 and the CFS Bureau. Moreover, the CSM dedicated three well attended Side events at CFS 44 to key issues for the CFS to

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address: the potential impact of megamergers in the agrobusiness sector on FSN; the role and rights of women in conflict and food crises; and the Global Hearing of the Landless which outlined the global issue of increasing landlessness as a challenge for FSN and the CFS.

Question 2b

The CSM constituencies have involved themselves in a very active and intense way. Many members and participants of the CFS explicitly acknowledged and supported these remarkable efforts. This involvement could be further improved if translation of CFS and HLPF documents could be better funded and if interpretation could be provided to more CFS meetings. The CSM itself would as well warmly welcome financial contributions to support CSO participation and interpretation to CFS meetings, and translation of documents.

Question 3°

- The **permanent tools** for sharing and disseminating information about of CFS policy processes and outcomes are: the regular CSM Updates http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/EN_CSM-Update-November-2017.compressed.pdf; the website <http://www.csm4cfs.org/>; the continued communication within the CSM Coordination Committee, whose members share this information regularly with the global constituencies and the sub-regions; and the information shared within each of the CSM Policy WG.
- **Particular global opportunities** for dissemination and knowledge sharing on CFS policy outcomes are the global CSM Constituencies meetings and the annual CSM Forum (*see more information below*);
- The major CSM dissemination work is usually done by the respective CSM Working Group and its participating organizations. In 2017, the focus was on promoting the use of the CFS Policy recommendations on Smallholder to Markets (*see more information below*);
- **Participation to and realization of dissemination events:** CSM participating organizations participate in national, regional or global events and promote CFS policy outcomes at those occasions, including the CFS Side event to the HLPF in July, promoting the use of the Framework for Action on FSN in Protracted Crises;
- The **CSM Monitoring WG** and its participating organizations promote the use, application and monitoring of CFS policy outcomes, focusing in late 2017 on the Right to Food Guidelines (*see more information below*)
- **Joint events with Members** on use, application and monitoring of CFS Policy Outcomes: Event co-organized by CSM and Germany in April 2017, on: “Bringing Rome home – strengthening the use and application of CFS policy outcomes”.

Question 3b

Knowledge sharing, assessment and capacity building on CFS policy outcomes in the context of global CSM constituency meetings:

- Constituency Meeting of Indigenous Peoples, Panama, February 2017
- CSM Constituency Meeting of the Landless, Tunis, March 2017
- CSM Women Constituency Meeting, Rome, September 2017
- CSM Youth Constituency Meeting, Rome, December 2017

Specific efforts for dissemination, use and application of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders:

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- Civil society actors have diffused the recommendations widely through their own bulletins and networks and have taken action to ensure that they have been publicized in more official sources like the AGRIVEST network and the Inter-Réseaux bulletin. This divulgation has been backed up the 'Analytical Guide' to the recommendations (*see link below*), and other materials like a two-page brief prepared by Terra Nuova.
- Civil society training and sensitization workshops featuring the recommendations have been organized in all regions, for example at the Nyéleni Europe conference in Romania in October 2016, the ROPPA Peasant University in West Africa in January 2017, La Via Campesina's International Conference in July 2017, and Focus on the Global South workshops in Asia. Civil society actors have brought the recommendations to the attention of the worlds of academics and practitioners in events like the CIRAD conference on Agri-Chains & Sustainable Development in Montpellier.
- The recommendations have been brought to bear on other relevant UN processes. Urgenci has introduced them at expert meetings on SDG2 and Habitat III and the UN Interagency TF on Social and Solidarity Economy. Action Aid and ROPPA have pushed for their application in the context of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). They have also been used in advocacy work at national and regional levels targeting policies and programs such as the South African Small-Scale Fisheries Policy and the EU External Investment Plan.
- Small-scale producer organizations are joining hands with FAO in a project addressing the CFS recommendation to fill the data gap on markets embedded in local, national and regional food systems which will be launched in February 2018.
- See also the CSM strategy for the use and application of the SH/Markets Policy Recommendations: http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016-csmSH_markets-draft-strategy-implementation-CLEAN.pdf.
- Publication of the CSM Analytical Guide to foster the use and application of the CFS Policy recommendations <http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/English-CONNECTING-SMALLHOLDERS-TO-MARKETS.pdf>

Promotion of the nexus use-application-monitoring in preparation of the global monitoring event on the Right to Food Guidelines at CFS45:

- promotion of national and regional monitoring events, based on the CFS TOR for these event, including dialogues with governments and international organizations
- start of a comprehensive process for an independent CSO Report on the use and application of the Right to Food Guidelines, including the elaboration of methodological tools adapted to CSO needs and capacities, an Open Call for contributions, and a global CSO consultation to be held in 2018, see more on the CSM Website: <http://www.csm4cfs.org/share-experiences-right-food/>

Question 4°

According to our experience, specific activities aimed at strengthening the link between CFS in Rome and relevant actors at country level could be:

- Defining a **CFS Focal Point** in each capital, placed in one of the Ministries, as the contact point as well for information on the CFS and its outcomes, which could help to inform other governmental entities and other actors on CFS.
- If there is an **existing platform or national mechanism** of governments with other actors from civil society, research institutions, UN bodies and private sector, like a national food

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security and nutrition council or platform, it is important that the link of CFS with this mechanism is strengthened.

- A specific activity each CFS member could do to foster the information on the CFS at the country level, could be an **open information meeting in the country after each annual CFS Plenary**, to inform about the outcomes of the plenary and to jointly discuss their possible use and application in the country.
- A lesson learnt from the VGGT monitoring exercise is that **governments should seek the cooperation with small-scale food producers and other constituencies whose living conditions should be improved** by using CFS outcomes. In the case of the VGGT, several governments have engaged with organizations of smallholder and family farmers, indigenous peoples, pastoralists and fisherfolks, and have also supported their own efforts on capacity building and use of the CFS policy outcomes.
- In this context, **members should also consider requesting the support from the Rome-based Agencies** for an improved use, application and monitoring of the CFS policy outcomes. The VGGT case shows that the support from FAO has been important in several countries to promote the knowledge on a CFS policy outcomes, and to support their use and application.

Question 4b

- CSM knows from the experience of its participating organizations that effective dissemination, use and application of CFS policy outcomes always needs to be **linked with ongoing policy discussions and process on the national and regional level**. The CFS policies will be of interest in so far as they are relevant to these ongoing processes. In that sense, a good methodology to promote the use and application of CFS policy outcomes starts with the needs and political realities in the country. Our recent work with the CFS Policy recommendations on smallholders to markets confirms that their uptake works whenever they speak to key debates of interest for smallholders, governments, and also Rome-based Agencies.
- As shown by the VGGT monitoring exercise, the **use and application of CFS policy outcomes require action on different levels**, including: dissemination and awareness raising; capacity building and development; creation and consolidation of multi-actor policy dialogue spaces; contribution to reforms of policy and legal frameworks; effective participation of civil society, particularly people's organizations, social movements, and community-based organizations in the operationalization process; monitoring and evaluation.
- **CFS AG members should be requested to elaborate a plan for their contribution to the dissemination, use and application of CFS policy outcomes**, which also should indicate the roles and responsibilities they see for themselves in such endeavor, and the potentials for cooperation with members and participants in the CFS. The CSM has done this kind of plans so far for individual CFS policy outcomes, but not systematically and comprehensively for all of them. The CSM has included this task as a matter of priority in its own workplan 2018.
- The Concept note drafted for the joint event of CSM and Germany in April 2017 on *"Bringing home the results from Rome – Strengthening the use and application of the CFS policy outcomes"* provides **more elements for reflection** on this topic, see <http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Concept-Note-CFS-Outcomes-6-april-2017-1.pdf>. Specifically, the event strongly underlined the **outstanding roles and responsibilities of FAO, IFAD and WFP for a strengthened dissemination, use and application of CFS policy outcomes**. The RBAs should be

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particularly requested to provide a plan on how they will integrate the promotion of CFS policy outcomes into their program and country work within the next years.

Question 4c

- **Strengthening the link dissemination-use-application-monitoring:** the upcoming GTE on the Right to Food Guidelines offers a great opportunity for strengthening this link and learning process on the use and application of a CFS policy outcome, as the GTE in 2016 on the VGGT did. Members and participants should contribute to this exercise through national or regional events, or written contributions that will feed into the CFS 45 and the learning and improving process of the CFS in general.
- **Link with other UN bodies:** the experiences of 2017 show that the cooperation with other UN bodies working on similar topics from their own perspective, have been important for the CFS deliberations and the quality of the outcomes. CSM has suggested continuing and fostering the cooperation particularly with UN Women, CEDAW, the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights and other related UN bodies.
- **Link to the regional level:** The regional level is important as Members and participants can link the CFS policy outcomes to ongoing initiatives and agendas of regional platforms, organizations and conferences. Members could advocate a CFS segment in conferences of these regional bodies, and particularly the future FAO conferences, to foster the knowledge about the CFS and the link between its policy outcomes and the relevant policy processes at the regional level.

Private Sector Mechanism for relations with the CFS (PSM)

Question 1

The private sector has continued to engage actively with the CFS over the 2016-17 period. PSM members from a wide range of geographies, across the agri-food chain and from farmer organizations, SMEs or large corporations contributed to the drafting of all the relevant CFS products and participated in the intersessional events, by sharing expertise and knowledge of best practices with all CFS stakeholders. They spread the knowledge of CFS products within their respective companies, and have concretely taken them into account in the elaboration of their operations.

PSM resourced 6 PSM Working Groups:

- Forestry
- SDGs, Partnerships, Multi-Year Program of Work (MYPoW)
- Nutrition,
- Women's empowerment,
- Urbanization and rural transformation
- Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)/Land Tenure (VGGT)

PSM contributed to two Technical Task Teams:

- Women's Empowerment
- Nutrition

PSM contributed to the negotiation of 2 documents approved at CFS44:

- Chair's Recommendations on Women's Empowerment
- CFS Recommendations on "Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition"

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Many PSM members have also come to Rome to share their practical experiences in CFS venues, including as speakers and panellists at CFS events, as well as intersessional events (as the three ones on nutrition), and by contributing case studies to background documents and other CFS publications. At the first nutrition intersessional event on Investments for Healthy Diets, Marie Konaté, CEO of Protein Kissee-laa from Côte d'Ivoire was the nominated PSM speaker. Ms Konaté brought forward her unique experience of developing fortified foods for children and women in Western Africa in the context of a local small and medium enterprise (SME). The PSM delegation included an additional 7 members from a variety of trade associations and corporations (Federalimentare, Ferrero, International Food and Beverage Alliance, Abbott Nutrition).

At the second nutrition intersessional event on Impact Assessment of Nutrition Policies, Nick Deschuyffeleer, Food Policy Manager at the Belgian Food & Drink Federation (FEVIA) from Belgium was the nominated PSM speaker and spoke of FEVIA's program with the Belgian government to improve nutrition and encourage product reformulation. The PSM delegation included an additional 7 members (Global Dairy Platform, Global Pulse Confederation, Federalimentare, Pulse Canada, International Food and Beverage Alliance).

At the third nutrition intersessional event on Stunting, the PSM nominated Cesarie Kantarama, a smallholder farmer from Rwanda representing the East Africa Farmer Federation. However, Cesarie was denied entry into the plane because of a discrepancy between her FAO invitation and her Visa terms. Nevertheless, the PSM attended the event with a delegation of 7 members.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.agrifood.net/private-sector-mechanism>

Question 2a

Highlights

- 170 person delegation of business leaders gathered in Rome for CFS plenary in October (for comparison, there was a 1 person delegation in 2010; 37 in 2011; 62 in 2012; 59 in 2013; 87 in 2014; 116 in 2015, 170 in 2016).
- 77 PSM representatives at the PSM Annual General Meeting (May) in person in Rome.
- Information Session on PSM activities for the benefit of the Member States presented in May at the FAO.
- 190 participants, from 63 countries, at the High Level Dinner (October 10th, report available [here](#)), including 58 Ambassadors.
- 18 bilateral meetings were held (7 at AGM and 11 at CFS). 94 Member State representatives from 62 countries attended bilaterals at AGM; 56 representatives from 41 countries attended bilaterals during CFS44.
- 12 newsletters for 600+ members.

PSM members made pointed and enriching interventions in panel slots, side-events and from the floor during Plenary, OEWDs, Advisory Group meetings and intersessional events. Coordination by the PSM through its Secretariat allowed members of the PSM delegations to be well-informed about CFS activities and to contribute constructively to its processes.

The PSM coordinates its members through voluntary participation in thematic working groups that mirror CFS workstreams. The PSM currently hosts working groups on:

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- Nutrition,
- Urbanization and rural transformation,
- Forestry,
- SDGs/ MYPOW/Partnerships,
- Women's empowerment, and
- Responsible Agricultural Investment and Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure

These working groups examine CFS draft documents at every stage, providing valuable feedback in order to ensure that they are accurate and effective. Through these working groups, as well as through other venues, the PSM is able to develop collective positions that feed into OEWG, TTT and AG meetings and to disseminate calls for contributions, such as FSN Forum e-consultations, as well as calls for speakers, meetings and case studies.

Working Group	Membership	Deliverables
Nutrition	114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in OEWG, intersessional events and TTT • Drafting position papers on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strengthening Food Systems to Improve Nutrition Outcomes ○ Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture ○ Trade and Nutrition • 2016 Partnership Forum on Nutrition • Provide inputs to E-consultations
Urbanization and rural transformation	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in OEWG, TTT and technical workshops • Call for experiences to prepare outcome document of forum held during CFS43: 11 submissions • PSM Position Paper on urbanization and rural transformation
Forestry	38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the negotiations July-October • PSM Position Paper on Forestry
SDGs/ MYPOW/Partnerships	33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in OEWG and TTT on SDGs • Participation in MYPOW OEWG • 2016 Partnership Forum on SDGs • Collection of case studies on Goal 2 implementation
Women's empowerment	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in TTT • Compilation of 51 case-studies • Submission of 18 potential speakers • 2015 PSM Forum on Women's Empowerment: Solutions at the Nexus of Agriculture, Nutrition and Enterprise with Cherie Blair Foundation
Responsible Agricultural Investment and Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure	73	Participation in the upcoming 5h Anniversary of the VGGTs.

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- Represent interests of different entities of your constituency in CFS discussions:

Private sector presence at CFS plenary sessions is growing more and more every year, with the 44th session having raised the bar in terms of diversity with regards to the value chain, geography and the exceptional presence of a team of 11 young farm leaders from around the world. Every section of the agri-food value chain was represented.

The PSM obtained a grant to bring 4 farmer and SME representatives. In pursuing this grant opportunity with the New Venture Fund, our central goal was to amplify the voices of farmers and SME representatives in discussions about the role the private sector can play in tackling food losses and waste to achieve food and nutrition security, especially linked to the achievement of the SDGs, with particular focus on SDG 2: “End hunger, achieve food security and nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”.

- We received 90 applications from 22 countries for funding; 34 of these applications were from women
- 4 farmers and SME representatives received full funding to participate in CFS 44 (see table below)
- In total, they held 10 major speaking positions at side events and in plenary
- They attended bilateral meetings, which in total drew 56 representatives from 41 countries, as well as four meetings with UN Agencies
- 2 grantees were selected by the PSM to meet with the Director General of FAO

	<p>FARMER: Agusdin Pulungan Farmer and President of WAMTI (Indonesian Farmer and Fisheries Organization) Indonesia</p>	<p>Agusdin Pulungan is a farmer and the president of WAMTI, an organization that supports and advocates for a network of over 80,000 smallholder farmers and fishers in Indonesia. He has also served as the Vice Secretary General of the Indonesian Farmers Association and an advisor to Rome’s Global Horticulture Initiative, among other accomplishments.</p>
	<p>YOUTH and FARMER Representative Gina Gutierrez Dairy Farmer, member of the Global Farmer Network and Founder of La Vida Láctea Mexico</p>	<p>Gina Gutierrez is a fifth-generation dairy farmer from Mexico. For the past seven years, she has managed a production of over 700 heifers and cows. Her farm is a member of Alpura, Mexico’s largest dairy cooperative; she is a personal member of the Mexican Dairy Federation, where she represents dairy farmers from her state of Hidalgo. In addition, she is the founder of La Vida Láctea, a project that promotes milk consumption, and a permanent columnist for Hoard’s Dairyman magazine.</p>
	<p>YOUTH, FARMER and SME Representative Steve Ngunyi Founder of Icon (Be One) Ltd. Kenya</p>	<p>Steve Ngunyi is managing partner at Icon (Be One), a consulting firm for agricultural brands that helps Kenyan agribusinesses manage social and production commitments. Recently, Icon (Be One) has begun an initiative called agri-e-couture, which develops strategies to help enterprises align their core functions with the SDGs, with a particular focus on engaging youth. He has formerly worked as an account manager at Ogilvy & Mather, one of the world’s largest advertising networks.</p>
	<p>SME Representative Nana Osei-Bonsu CEO of Private Enterprise Foundation Ghana</p>	<p>In the past five years, Nana Osei-Bonsu has successfully revitalized the Private Enterprise Foundation of Ghana, an umbrella network that advocates for diverse private sector interests, including the Chamber of Commerce, Small-Scale Industries, the Ghana Grains Council, and others. Previously, he worked as the manager of the Venture Capital Trust Fund, where he established programs to commit venture funds to business development and farming initiatives.</p>

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- All 4 delegates spoke in CFS plenary sessions, during the policy roundtables on SDGs, women’s empowerment and forestry;
- 5 panellist positions at PSM and non-PSM side events, with over 60 people in attendance at each:
 - [Women’s Empowerment and the SDGs](#)
 - Forests, Trees and Agroforestry for Food Security and Nutrition and the SDGs (CIFOR)
 - PSM Discussion of Agricultural Research (GFAR)
 - Trade, Investment, and Food Security (Columbia University)
 - Applying the VGGT in Agribusiness Investment Projects (DFID)
- In the week prior to CFS, Mr Ngunyi was one of the panelists selected by the FAO to take part in the Technical Thematic Forum to mark the 5th anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). He spoke at the session on “Strengthening Collaboration on VGGT and Responsible RAI Implementation: Increasing Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems.” He shared examples of young Kenyan entrepreneurs developing new enterprises, seeking technical expertise and financial resources, and generating new incomes and employment.
- Also in that prior week, Mr. Pulungan participated in forestry negotiations as part of the PSM delegations one of the rare voices of small-scale foresters in the room. The negotiations resulted in CFS endorsing a set of policy recommendations on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition.
- At the High-Level Dinner, our farmers and SME representatives were seated at pre-arranged tables that gave them the opportunity to connect with others with relevant interests, while leaving them free to mix casually with all attendees during reception and dessert.
- Assist the Bureau in the identification of important developments in the area of food security and nutrition at global, regional and national levels.

The PSM has also been involved in the elaboration of the 2018-19 Multi-Year Programme of Work, working to ensure greater alignment with the SDGs and to avoid to overload the work of the CFS. To that end, the PSM has proposed future workstreams on the topics of “engaging, recruiting and retaining youth in agriculture” and “resilience in the face of disasters”.

Question 2b

Currently, HLPE does not welcome experts from the private sector to apply to be on HLPE panels and task teams. Since the private sector employs or works collaboratively with scientists and research centres engaged in the most innovative research in agriculture and nutrition, the PSM would appreciate having a seat on the selection committee. We find it all the more relevant as the CSM has been allocated a seat and we firmly believe in parity and equal treatment among Advisory Group members.

Furthermore, the PSM has been advocating, since its establishment, for parity in the Advisory Group leading to the allocation of more than the existing single seat. Extra seats would allow PSM to bring forward an increased diversity of actors as confirmed by the variety of delegates registered to CFS plenary from across the value chain, in particular to account for the particular role played by SMEs and farmers.

The PSM currently counts over 600 members. The diversity in membership has also expanded drastically, in particular with regards to the sectorial representation to go beyond crops and to

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account for the importance of the fisheries, livestock and forestry sector. This growth is a direct outcome of the CFS topics that have been addressed in the past years by the HLPE reports and policy convergence processes.

Question 3a

The Private Sector Mechanism is co-ordinated through the International Agri-Food Network, which is comprised of associations. Collectively, they represent 10,000s of businesses, co-operatives and millions of farmers. Together these businesses operate in 191 countries. In addition, IAFN is a member of Business 2030, the coalition of business groups formerly named “Global Business Action for the Post-2015 Development Agenda”. Business 2030 is led by the International Chamber of Commerce and represents Business & Industry at the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development. IAFN represents the voice of the agrifood sector in this multi-sectorial effort.

Because the HLPF is the central UN platform for the follow-up and review of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), IAFN partnered with **12 organizations** to host an Agriculture and Food Day, which took place on July 13th at the Yale Club in New York City, in the margins of the HLPF. The purpose of this event was to raise awareness of the critical need for investment in Sustainable Development Goal 2 (“zero hunger”) for the achievement of all the Agenda 2030. The day involved a thematically-focused plenary session, a series of roundtable discussions to address interlinkages between SDG’s, and a dynamic luncheon featuring youth in agriculture.

Agriculture and Food Day provided an opportunity to hear directly from individuals throughout the agrifood chain on what we need to do to achieve Goal 2. It also allowed for the **181 participants** to network, share knowledge and explore future collaboration in an open and dynamic environment.

In addition, IAFN was able to participate through its membership of Business 2030, to the second annual SDG Business Forum that took place at the United Nations during the ministerial segment of the HLPF. IAFN lead a session aimed to highlight the important role businesses play in implementing the SDG Goals of focus (Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, and 17) by providing specific and relevant case studies, many from PSM members. The IAFN coordinated **7 rapid-fire presentations** to illustrate concrete actions mobilized by the private sector to further the SDG’s of focus.

The PSM has spoken repeatedly in other venues, in particular in the context of Agenda 2030 and the HLPF, about the important role of the CFS. The PSM has also cooperated in the organization of side events in a variety of venues (3rd Conference on Financing for Development, SDG and HLPF, etc...), drawing attention to the work of the CFS and the role that its products can play in achieving food security and nutrition, and the broader Sustainable Development Goals.

The PSM publishes a monthly newsletter circulated to close to 600 individuals to keep its constituency up to date, as well as to promote CFS outcomes on the official website of the International Agri-Food Network (agrifood.net). The PSM takes an active role in promoting and engaging with CFS processes on social media, including through Twitter (@agrifoodnet) and LinkedIn (International Agri-Food Network – Group). Members also speak at industry events (Annual Conferences, board meetings, ...) and prepare articles for industry newsletters to promote CFS activities and outcomes.

Finally, PSM Secretariat and its members contribute actively to the e-consultations run by FSN in relation to CFS topics.

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Question 3b

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Finally, PSM Secretariat and its members contribute actively to the e-consultations run by FSN in relation to CFS topics.

Question 4°

Dissemination events could help to make CFS products more actionable on the ground. All stakeholders must be responsible in organizing those events and make the relevant CFS products more operationalizable. Member States should report back to their capital and ensure policy

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recommendations are followed by their governments, whilst other stakeholders should engage in the implementation of projects promoting CFS policy recommendations.

Question 4b

Knowledge about CFS work can be fostered through the participation of members of the Advisory Group in international conferences and other *fora* at global, regional and local level. For example, the HighQuest Group organised a series of conferences on investments in agriculture, called Global Ag Investing, which featured sessions on the implementation and use of the VGGT and RAI. On this occasion, Robynne Anderson, Secretary of the IAFN and Private Sector Mechanism of the CFS, was invited to present the work of the CFS and its products.

Members of the Advisory Group can also incorporate a report on CFS in their regular activities. This will help to have a regular update on CFS negotiations and events. This report will be circulated to the respective constituencies and will help increasing awareness and participation in the activities of the Committee. Receiving a timely update is in fact essential to guarantee that inclusive and informed inputs will be provided.

Furthermore, members can accelerate the regular and timely dissemination of major CFS products and encourage international associations, especially in the agri-food sector, to make use at country level of the policy instruments adopted by the CFS. Dissemination of CFS products shall be fostered by the CFS Secretariat and stakeholders through the production of interactive material on its major products, such as informative videos on the VGGTs and RAI to be projected during their Annual General Meetings.

Question 4c

The PSM welcomes with appreciation the creation of a workstream on CFS Evaluation. This is a good way to undertake a follow up and review process of the CFS activities, assess and make recommendations on the CFS workload and to monitor the effectiveness of CFS policy products. The PSM has shared concrete suggestions for improving management processes and, in particular, for strengthening the linkages between the Advisory Group constituencies and the Committee. These suggestions include:

- All current OEWGs should prepare TORs, objectives and time-bound results. TORs should include responsibility of the Chair and technical task teams.
- A streamlining exercise should be initiated now to reduce the proliferation of OEWGs.
- During negotiations, establish a finite number of times when non-state actors can intervene on a given issue and provide guidance on this for all constituencies.
- During negotiations, provide a timeline or cut-off whereby new issues can no longer be introduced to a given document. The purpose of negotiations should be to refine and finalise a text.

Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

Question 1

CGIAR comprises 15 international research centers working in close collaboration with hundreds of partners, including national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia, development organizations and the private sector. CGIAR is a member of the CFS Advisory Group, and until CFS 44 that seat was covered by representatives from Bioversity. After that date, the CGIAR

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will be represented by the System Organization of the CGIAR (Dr. RD Cooke and Mr A Zandstra) . Apart from ad hoc participation in the AG meetings, Dr C. Sere (Bioversity) spent considerable time vetting and selecting new members of the HLPE StC. HLPE is an effective CFS think tank, but the bureau requires regular real-time technical advice in pursuit of its work streams and indeed the principal demand from CFS 44 for greater evidence-based innovation. This led to the CGIAR decision on a raised participation in AG meetings.

Inter-sessional activities that involved CGIAR in 2017 focused primarily on the the CFS processes on nutrition/food systems, sustainable forestry, the 3 HLPE reports cited below (section 2), and preparations for CFS44 involvement (section 3).

Question 2a

The CGIAR contributed in the last year to the HLPE reports and or policy convergence for

1. Sustainable forestry for Food Security and Nutrition – inputs coordinated primarily by CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA) CIFOR leads FTA in partnership with Bioversity, CATIE, CIRAD, ICRAF, INBAR and TBI.
2. Nutrition and Food Systems inputs via Bioversity, drawing on many CGIAR Research Programs.
3. ‘Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition : What role for livestock ?’ ILRI had been involved with the production of this report in 2016, and led one of the CFS consultations hosted by IFAD. Turning to promoting the flow of CFS related information, in November 2017 ILRI was recognized for contributing to Ethiopia’s livestock sector growth in the first ever National Livestock Week. Similar work is being continued by ILRI and partners in other SSA countries.

Question 2b

The work streams of most immediate pertinence for CGIAR are nutrition; urbanization and RT; and ‘monitoring’ relating to preparation of the global thematic events for the next CFS annual meeting.

On urbanization, there is major work presented in the current SOFA and indeed in IFAD’s rural development report 2016, and a CFS policy recommendation appears appropriate.

The StC coordinator for the recently launched ‘Agroecology & Innovations for FSN’ work stream is Prof Paul Mapfumo has been contacted on CG support (section 4) The StC coordinator for the work stream, ‘multi-stakeholder partnerships to finance and improve food security nutrition in the framework of the 2030 agenda’ (Dr Muhammad Khan) is in contact with CGIAR, following the November GA/HLPE meeting (eg the work led by CGIAR’s ISPC on partnerships). We look forward to the consultation draft.

Question 3a

This is illustrated by CGIAR interaction with CFS 44, which included:

1. sustainable forestry (FTA) October 9 and 11: moderated by CIFOR
2. Bioversity - the key event was the book launch on October 11th: Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity in Sustainable Food Systems: Scientific Foundations for an Agrobiodiversity Index

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3. IFPRI and Harvest Plus October 9 and 11, Market Development for Nutrition
4. Launch of the Global Programme on Fusarium Wilt Disease of Banana: IITA and Bioversity
5. Food Reform for Sustainability and Health (FRSH). This aimed to accelerate consumer-centered transformational change in global food systems through research and multi-stakeholder collaborations - from fork to farm (involved ICRISAT and others)

The summaries of these side events are all now on the CFS web site (after 4 December 2017). CGIAR members also participated in the CFS44 plenary sessions.

Question 3b

The CFS member states considered that the policy products that may emerge following the policy convergence process of the CFS are more useful for dissemination in country, rather than the long and general HLPE reports. Policy dialogue and advocacy on rural development are important elements of the CGIAR research programmes, and build on appropriate CFS products, according to country needs. The 15 CGIAR Centres aim to promote innovations in FSN development drawing on all knowledge sources including CFS work streams and products. The CGIAR Centres are located across the regions, and CGIAR has local presence in over 70 countries – with deep knowledge of customs, values and market operations in developing countries.

A good example is presented by the HLPE self-assessment of impact which indicated one of the highest impact reports was ‘sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition : What role for livestock ?’ ILRI had been involved with the production of this report in 2016,

On general communications, a CGIAR partner, GFAR, had facilitated the social media aspects of CFS 44 communication.

Question 4a

CGIAR intends to interact more effectively with CFS processes by the CGIAR System Organization coordination across the 15 Centres. This approach was started in November, and is illustrated by the CGIAR support to the HLPE e-consultation on **‘Agroecological approaches and other innovations for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition’**. The CGIAR compiled (1 December) responses, from across seven CGIAR centres, in response to the request for comments on the scope of the HLPE paper on ‘Agroecological approaches’.

This response was brought together by the [CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems](#). WLE is well-placed to do this, given that its core mandate is to enhance the knowledge base on how to deliver environmentally and socially sustainable agricultural and food systems.

Question 4b

AG members need to use their networks and partnerships to promote appropriate CFS work, based on country and regional presence. This networking should also be deployed to link CFS to other major events in rural development. Examples include African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) 2016, “Seize the Moment: Securing Africa’s Rise through Agricultural Transformation”; AGRF 2017 focused on, “Accelerating Africa’s Path to Prosperity: Growing Inclusive Economies and Jobs through Agriculture”; the G20, prompted by Germany as G20 leader in 2017, planned together with the World Bank and the African Development Bank to set up investment partnerships for reform-orientated African countries. A related action by Germany was a Berlin conference “One World No

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Hunger. Future of the Rural World”. A further example is the World Food Prize - CGIAR as CIP and IFPRI were the 2016 prize winners for biofortification successes in the context of food systems, nutrition and health.

Question 4c

Further strengthening can be achieved by CGIAR and other AG members building on their interactions with the Rome Based UN Agencies (sponsors of the CFS) to further promote CFS processes. A key message from CFS44 is that we need to provoke more profound developments in the agricultural and rural sector - ‘transformative change’. CGIAR works with the RBAs (specifically FAO and IFAD) on transformative change. Examples of the drivers for this are : 1. The rate of yield increases of staple crops has started to decline, and indicates that in future it will not keep pace with a growing population and increasing demand – further aggravated by changing consumption patterns (for example increased meat and fish), as illustrated in CFS 44 side events. 2. World Food Day, following CFS44, emphasized the strong link between drought, famine, food prices and conflict. Youth unemployment in rural areas drives unplanned urbanization and political instability. 3. The unsustainable pressure on natural resources, aggravated by climate change and extremes was featured in several CFS44 side events and plenaries. Climate shocks put the most vulnerable at risk. Agriculture is the main driver of deforestation and land degradation, and plays a major role in water pollution.

World Bank

Question 1

The World Bank Agriculture Global Practice participated on a technical task team (together with FAO and IFAD) for the CFS Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on Urbanization, rural transformation and implications for food security and nutrition. This informal technical advisory team was tasked with producing a document (“Addressing food security and nutrition in the context of changing rural-urban dynamics: experiences and effective policy approaches”) to assess the feasibility for CFS to support governments and other stakeholders at the national and local level in addressing food security and nutrition within the context of changing rural-urban dynamics. In this capacity, we participated in several virtual meetings of this advisory group and participated in a meeting of this CFS OEWG on 23 June 2017 to review the document and decide what to propose to the CFS as program of work in 2018.

In October 2017, during the 44th CFS, the World Bank co-hosted (with FAO and IFAD) the CFS Side Event, Food Systems for an Urbanizing World, Cities as drivers of transformation in food systems for livelihood improvement, job creation, nutrition security and environmental sustainability. World Bank Practice Manager, Preeti Ahuja, participated as a panelist in the event.

In addition, at the 44th CFS, the World Bank also participated as a key note speaker (Preeti Ahuja) at the CFS Side Event, “How can agricultural investments promote quality, safe and nutritious foods for healthy diets? Making the case for an investment shift - Implementing the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition”.

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The World Bank-hosted GAFSP Coordination Unit organised (with FAO, the UK and ActionAid) a well-attended side event entitled ***Operationalizing an SDG2 indicator: The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) and the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)*** at CFS44. The panel conveyed experience so far in adopting FIES at the global, program, and project levels, and stressed the role and importance of measurements in achieving the SDGs. The experience of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) was highlighted, in its adoption of FIES as a program-wide indicator to measure food insecurity changes across its portfolio.

Question 2°

See above regarding World Bank contributions to CFS processes.

In the context of the CFS OEWG on Urbanization, the World Bank shared information regarding a forthcoming report, “Food Systems for an Urbanizing World”.

The Agriculture Global Practice of the World Bank Group is engaged as part of our core business in many of the issues addressed by the CFS, including nutrition, climate change, gender, employment and food systems. However, since we have a very small Rome-based presence, it is difficult for us to participate extensively in the CFS. Our ability to participate would be enhanced if options to participate remotely in the CFS meetings are offered in future. Meantime, the World Bank office in Rome will keep abreast of the ongoing and future CFS agenda, and we will identify opportunities for selective future World Bank engagement.

Question 3°

The results of the CFS work undertaken by the Agriculture Global Practice of the World Bank Group are disseminated internally to colleagues and are included in internal results monitoring.

As a core member of Inter Agency Working Group (IAWG) for Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI), WB along with partners promoted principles and guidelines on RAI including CFS-RAI.

Question 3b

WB, together with other IAWG partners, organized workshops on RAI in Senegal, South Africa, Ghana and Malawi. WB, partner with UNCTAD, hold a masterclass at the Land and Poverty Conference of WB in Washington DC to disseminate practical guidance on sub topics under RAI.

Question 4a

CFS outreach at the global level is very good. However, we are not sufficiently aware of the approaches that CFS uses to communicate with actors on the ground. Sending periodic CFS update briefs to country offices and stakeholders could be one potential avenue for strengthening communication at national level.

Question 4b

Per our response to question 4a, we are not sufficiently informed about the objectives and activities of CFS at country level or the results that have been achieved. Strengthening CFS communication to Advisory Group members on country level objectives, activities and results would, in turn, help us to more effectively share this information with our constituencies.

Question 4c

As a global governance body, it is not clear to us what are the main priorities of CFS at country level. Enhancing linkages with regional and sub-regional bodies (and their governance structures) that work on food security (e.g. African Union, CARICOM) may be one avenue through which the CFS could improve communication on the issues and coherence in the actions issues being addressed at global, regional and national levels.

World Farmers' Organization (WFO)

Question 1

WFO, as the umbrella organisation representing a group of national, sub-regional and regional organisations namely FARMECOSUR, COPA-COGECA, UMNAGRI, SACAU, EAFF, PAFO, CAFAN, EAFF, represented farmers within the CFS Advisory Group with an ad hoc seat during the past 2 years. WFO actively contributed to the work of the Advisory Group by participating in all the OEWGs meetings as well as the other intersessional events (i.e. the ones on nutrition and the Forum on Women's empowerment), giving concrete contributions to the topics under discussion by sending written comments and through interventions during the meetings (i.e. the written comments provided on the CFS contributions to 2017 and 2018 HLPF, the ones provided on the MYPoW 2018-2019, the ones on the evaluation process).

WFO always kept the farmers' constituency updated on the content of the meetings and all the interventions and contributions sent were the result of a democratic and open consultation with them (i.e. written comments provided on the evaluation process as well as all the other topics during the OEWGs meetings, statements delivered during the plenary session <http://www.wfo-oma.org/news/as-a-basis-for-good-nutrition-food-availability-and-access-need-to-be-ensured-first-ms-kouassi-statement-at-cfs-44.html>)

Question 2a

To facilitate the flow of information between the farmers' constituency and the CFS, WFO was always engaged in the following activities:

- Reporting to the constituency on the activities done by the CFS (<http://www.wfo-oma.org/news/ms-tlhabane-at-cfs-44-farmers-are-the-first-link-in-the-food-chain.html>; <http://www.wfo-oma.org/news/willi-kampmann-s-statement-on-urbanization-rural-transformation-and-implications-for-food-security-and-nutrition.html>; <http://www.wfo-oma.org/news/dr-theo-de-jager-at-cfs-44-armers-and-their-organisations-stand-ready-to-help-national-and-local-governments-in-solving-the-land-and-agriculture-related-causes-of-conflict.html>; https://www.facebook.com/worldfarmersorg/photos/a.363785677044519.87882.3629981504566_05/1469627336460342/?type=3&theater).
- Sharing of the meetings' outcomes as well as CFS policy products and recommendations;

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- Request the constituency to send inputs to CFS policy products as requested by the CFS Secretariat. The bottom up approach is a priority for WFO. In fact, it always participates in the CFS meetings as representative of the farmers' constituency: in this view, a democratic and inclusive approach is guaranteed through which all the members express their views and give their comments to the different topics treated. The interventions made by WFO are always a reflection of this consultation process.

Question 2b

As per the request made by WFO as representative of a coalition of farmers' organisations WFO, representing the farmers' constituency, should be permanently involved in the works of the CFS in order to allow farmers to actively contribute to the activities of the Committee. We would also like to see the farmers more involved in the activities organized during the intersessional period such as panels and events on different topics. Farmers should participate as panelists, experts, special guests, in order to bring their perspectives, challenges and expertise on the different topics thus enriching the discussion. It is worth noting that farmers' major groups are being created in the context of the main international policy dialogues where themes related to agriculture are treated. Farmers in fact, as other stakeholders, are more and more involved in global discussion fora as the first interlocutors of international institutions, research centres, policy makers to improve the effectiveness of projects and programmes through the participation of target groups in the discussion. This practice has been already established for the preparation of the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs and the UN Post 2015 development agenda, within the Global Forum for Research in Agriculture, GFAR, the post Rio+20 just to mention a few

Question 3a

In order to disseminate the results of the CFS work within the farmers' constituency, WFO engaged in the following activities:

- Use of a mailing list of more than 300 addresses to keep the members of the farmers' constituency constantly updated on the works of the CFS as well as requesting inputs to policy documents by the CFS;
- updating social media and website with news on the activities of the CFS and on the participation of WFO;
- organizing events in order to disseminate specific policy products (i.e. organization of two capacity building workshops on the VGGTs in Uganda and Côte d'Ivoire).

Question 3b

In order to make CFS products known and assist in the use of CFS products at regional and national levels, WFO:

- Shared the policy products with the member organisations of the Constituency;
- Informed regional farmers' organizations (i.e. SACAU, EAFF) and asked them to share the CFS products in their networks;
- Organized capacity building workshops (i.e. in Cote d'Ivoire and Uganda on the VGGTs) to train farmers on the use of the policy products.

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Question 4a

WFO would like to suggest the following activities:

- organization of meetings/teleconferences with representatives from the ground of the different stakeholders members of the Advisory Group, who could share their opinions and experiences on the different topics under discussion;
- organization of events in the different Countries to explain the activities of the CFS involving constituencies' representatives;
- CFS monthly newsletter to inform constituencies on what is happening in the field of food security, with news from the ground, to make the CFS known also outside;
- CFS policy products should be shorter and less complex for their ultimate beneficiaries (i.e. farmers);

Question 4b

Advisory Group members could implement the following activities to increase the knowledge about CFS at country level:

- organize workshops and events to share CFS products and explain the link with the reality on the ground and how they can be used by the different actors;
- organize teleconferences with constituencies' representatives to understand what is their knowledge of the CFS work and exchange views on it;
- organize events at community level with the support of the permanent representations and the RBAs;
- look for a better coordination within its members valuing the diversity of each one and the contribution every member can ensure to improve the results of the activities of the Advisory Group.

Question 4c

The work of the CFS, and consequently its policy products and recommendations, should be more substantive and more linked to the ground. The CFS is a multi-stakeholder platform within the UN system that aims to develop guidelines and policy recommendations, with a strong participation of non-state actors in the discussion. However, as also highlighted by the CFS Evaluation, the Committee is largely unknown at the national level and beyond Rome, meaning that it does not reach those who should be the ultimate beneficiaries of its activities, those in the field who deal everyday with the fight against food insecurity. The Committee should be more linked to other global bodies/agencies/structures that share the same interests and outcomes and also with platforms at the regional level. The policy products and recommendations should be shorter and easier to understand, with more practical information that could be used at the local level. Furthermore, CFS has not developed frameworks that can assist countries in monitoring their use of the CFS products and the progresses towards achieving their objectives in terms of food security and nutrition.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Question 1

Between January and December 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO), through its Department of Nutrition and Health for Development (NHD), contributed as ad-hoc participant to the CFS Advisory Group continuously providing technical expertise in the area of nutrition for the implementation of CFS programme of works throughout the year. More concretely, WHO:

- a) Engaged in the intersessional work and preparatory process of the 44th session of CFS:
 - Provided technical expertise in nutrition to the Advisory Group (attended 3 meetings) and Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) for: i) Nutrition (attended 2 meetings), ii) The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (attended 2 meetings), iii) CFS Multi Year Programme of Work 2018-2019 (attended 2 meetings), iv) the periodic update of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) – 2017 edition (attended 1 meeting); and provided comments in writing to these processes.
 - Jointly with FAO, presented the draft work programme of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025 for discussion to the OEWG Nutrition in February. Throughout the year, provided regular updates on the implementation of the Nutrition Decade and ICN2 follow-up.
 - Provided technical expertise on nutrition as active member of the Technical Task Team (TTT) for nutrition (participated in 4 meetings) and participated in interview with Chair of the CFS OEWG Nutrition on the expectations towards CFS policy work in nutrition.
 - Contributed technical inputs to the online-consultation on the issue note for the HLPE report on ‘Multistakeholder Partnerships to Finance and Improve Food Security and Nutrition in the Framework of the 2030 Agenda’, and to the scoping consultation of the report on Agroecological approaches for sustainable food systems that enhance food security and nutrition.
 - Participated in the evaluation on the effectiveness of CFS reform and provided feedback on the draft evaluation report.
 - Contributed to three CFS intersessional nutrition events on i) ‘Investments for healthy food systems’, ii) ‘Impact assessment of policies to support healthy food environments and healthy diets’, iii) ‘Achieving the 2025 global target for stunting-investing in food systems to prevent stunting’. WHO proposed country case studies aligned with WHO nutrition expertise and evidence based guidance and ICN2 recommendations.
 - WHO co-financed together with RBAs the third intersessional event, provided panelist for this event, as well as the main background document: WHO’s Global Nutrition Targets 2025 Stunting Policy Brief.
 - WHO engaged in the new partnership of the report on The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (the new SOFI 2017 and beyond) in collaboration with FAO, IFAD, WFP and UNICEF.
 - WHO jointly with FAO prepared and presented the CFS44 session report on ‘Update on ICN2 Reporting’.
 - Jointly with FAO and in collaboration with WB and IFAD, co-organized a side event at CFS44 under the implementation of the Nutrition Decade, entitled ‘How can

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agricultural investments promote quality, safe and nutritious foods for healthy diets? - Making the case for an investment shift'; and provided panelists for side-events of other CFS member: on strategies for childhood obesity prevention, and on the social economic impacts of the double burden of malnutrition.

Question 2a

Inputs from WHO constituency to CFS processes were provided by:

- Consulting with WHO regional offices on potential country case studies for the three intersessional nutrition events as well as for the CFS44 plenary session on 'Good practice and lessons sharing for improved nutrition' including its background document. This consultation resulted in five case studies proposed and submitted to CFS by respective Ministries of Health in countries. These contributions highlighted that intersectoral action is central in the fight against hunger and malnutrition in all its forms because peoples nutrition and health is directly affected by economic status, rights and equity and sector policies including agriculture, health and social protection (Brazil, Mexico, Senegal); and show-cased the application of WHO guidance for improved food environments at country level with focus on legislative measures and taxation (Qatar and Chile).

The interests of the WHO constituency - to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable - through actions that address the multiple burdens of malnutrition simultaneously, were represented in CFS discussions by:

- Continuous advocacy for CFS stepping up its role and engagement in the operationalization of the ICN2 outcomes and Framework for Action recommendations on sustainable food systems enabling healthy diets under the Nutrition Decade in line with the UNGA resolution A70/L.42 and in line with CFS mandate; and advocating for the need to stop working in silos but to work at the linkages between SDG2 and SDG3 and with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a whole.

WHO assisted the Bureau in the identification of important developments in the area of food security and nutrition through its active participation in joint Bureau and AG meetings, providing updates on developments under the Nutrition Decade and from the World Health Assembly (WHA), advocating for a cross-sectoral approach to food security and nutrition by creating bridges between Agriculture and Health that necessitate also a multi-stakeholder approach. The new partnership on SOFI 2017 highlighted new global developments in nutrition relevant to food security such as the rising trend in overweight and obesity and diet-related NCDs and the interconnectedness of the multiple forms of malnutrition.

Question 2b

WHO has included CFS as important platform for the nutrition discussion by agriculture and food security actors in its new nutrition strategy 'WHO's Ambition and Action in Nutrition 2016-2025'. One of the priorities for WHO's work in nutrition is to leverage changes in relevant non-health sectors to improve and mainstream nutrition, such as through WHO's participation in the development of global policy frameworks that address agriculture and food systems including food environments (e.g. through leadership and contributions to the work of CFS).

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<http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/nutrition-strategy-2016to2025/en/>. Implementing WHO's new nutrition strategy implies further engagement with CFS by all three levels of the organization.

Question 3a

WHO activities undertaken to disseminate the results of CFS work within its constituency include:

- CFS work in nutrition was noted by the World Health Assembly as part of the ICN2 progress report which was presented to the 70th WHA in May 2017 in Geneva;
- Promotion of CFS work through public communications on the WHO website, such as on the SOFI 2017 report, the CFS44 focus on nutrition, and the HLPE report on nutrition and food systems;
- Sharing information with WHO Nutrition team at headquarters and regions on the intersessional nutrition events and CFS44 with links to webstream; consultation through Regional Offices with Ministries of Health on proposals for country lessons learned for the intersessional events and CFS44 plenary.
- Promotion of CFS as intergovernmental platform in support of food security and nutrition among regional and country officers in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Workshop on Strengthening WHO's Capacity for Supporting and Accelerating Nutrition Action at Country Level, in Morocco, in October 2017. Similar workshops are planned for the other five WHO regions.

Question 3b

- We promoted the use of the CFS Framework of Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis Situations (CFS- FFA) to our regional nutrition advisors and their teams; included the CFS-FFA in briefing notes to WHO Senior management on the humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa and others.
- WHO organized a capacity building workshop for its regional team and incorporated in the agenda a session on CFS role and function and SOFI 2017.
- We would like to suggest that for such purposes, CFS Secretariat could have a standard presentation (PPT) that is annually update with basic information on CFS and key products for promotion to interested parties in regions and countries.

Question 4a

- The main link of the global CFS platform to country level are the Ministries of Food and Agriculture (and related Ministries) and the regional and country networks of the respective Advisory Group members. All CFS members should play a role in communicating the work of CFS to their respective networks.

Question 4b

- AG members should be encouraged to strengthen a two way communication with their regional and country representations / networks to make CFS policy products known to countries and make future work more relevant to countries' needs. The CFS Secretariat

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can support this process through its regular communication updates (communication plan).

Question 4c

- One way to strengthen the links could be by including relevant agenda items into various regional meetings as well as workshops for regional and country level teams of the constituency group. Moreover, future CFS global policy products could undergo further regional and country level adaptation process with the support from respective AG members depending on the theme and nature of the product. Such adaptation activities for further operationalization of policy products at country level could also be included in the MYPOWs of CFS.