

Italy would like to share the following comments on the role and composition of ADVISORY GROUP (response to Recommendation 4):

- The Advisory Group, by its multiactorial and inclusive **nature**, is one of the elements that better reflect the multi-stakeholder approach of CFS. AG's **mandate** is essential in providing the Bureau with latest developments in FSN, experiences and knowledge from the ground (as well as from research/financial institutions perspective). Therefore, the character of the “advice” provided to the Bureau is not primarily technical, but it contributes to design the **political** decisions of the Bureau and the political vision of the Committee.
- In light of the positive results achieved by PSM and CSM in bringing the multiple voices of their constituencies into the AG, Italy believes that the **mechanism-based system** represents an effective example that should be extended to two other categories that compose the Advisory Group: the International Agricultural Research Institutions and the International Financial and Trade Institutions. The mechanisms represent their constituencies in the best **accountable** way. As far as the Financial Institutions are concerned, it could be of paramount importance for the effectiveness of the AG having, for instance, the perspective of Regional Development Banks; as far as the research is concerned, additional expertise to the one provided by CGIAR could better address the various aspects of FSN.
- On the basis of the Reform Document and the five existing constituencies, Italy believes that a suitable and effective **composition** of the AG may be designed as follows:

6 seats for UN Bodies (FAO, WFP, IFAD, Special rapporteur on the RtF, WHO and UNSCN)
4 seats for Civil Society Mechanism
2 seats for Private Sector Mechanism/Philantopic Organisations (1 for PSM and 1 for Agriculture Entrepreneurs)
1 seat for the Research Mechanism
1 seat for the Financial Mechanism

This composition would accommodate the request coming from the **World Farmers Organization** and other farmers organizations, and would allow Philanthropic Foundations still to be heard through the PSM-seat.

For this biennium the simultaneous presence of WHO and UNSCN seems appropriate given the importance of the Nutrition workstream. For future biennium, the two seats could be incorporated in one UN-rotating seat to be occupied by a UN body depending on the issue on the agenda (UNSCN, UN Women, UNICEF, etc).

- Moreover, given the need for inclusiveness of the AG, Italy encourages to consider the creation of a further mechanism: a **Juridical mechanism**, that would enrich the capacity of the AG to advice on

law-related issues, so much linked to FSN and key to shape CFS' activity (human rights-based approach; gender related issues; impact of local and national legal framework; etc). A mechanism with legal/rule of law-oriented International Organizations such as IDLO (International Development Law Organization) and UNICRI (United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute) would be beneficial for the work of the AG and of the CFS.

- More in general, Italy values the system of **ad hoc seats** to bring on topic knowledge to the AG.

Joint proposal by Egypt and Iceland

- Italy appreciates the innovative character of the proposal and the ambition of making a decisive step towards an higher accountability of the AG. In Italy's view, the role of the Bureau should as a result be equally reinforced, as the AG's role is closely interrelated to the role of the Bureau.
- The proposal allow the AG to benefit from more independence, and avoid the risk of overlapping its agendas with those of the Bureau.
- Untying AG meetings from Bureau's meetings would certainly represents a valuable solution, however the multistakeholder approach embodied in **joint meetings** of Bureau and AG should also be maintained, to ensure a vital dialogue and exchange. These meetings should be revitalized.
- We would **refrain** from creating the status of "observers" in Bureau meetings, giving the value of the inclusiveness nature of the AG, the importance of all its components and the need to revitalize the Bureau and Advisory Group **joint meetings**,