

Outcomes of the global discussion on the follow-up to the Evaluation on 19 January 2018

The objective of the meeting was to finalize the draft response to evaluation recommendations 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 that was prepared following the discussions on 23 and 27 November 2017.

1. Draft response to recommendation 7 (Actions by CFS members to improve CFS)

Chapeau text

It was agreed to incorporate the following inputs for paragraph 2:

- Support was needed for developing capacity in developing and least developed countries to use and apply CFS policy products and recommendations.
- CSM's work done at the country level was through participation of civil society organizations, grassroots groups and social movements.

Participants agreed that the following suggestions for further consideration would be reflected in paragraph 3:

- Nomination of a CFS focal point at country-level to promote the dissemination and use and application of CFS policy outcomes and report on CFS-related activities should not only be envisaged in the most relevant ministry and could also be in multi-stakeholder platforms. The role of the CFS focal point should not include monitoring CFS-related activities.
- The establishment or leveraging on existing food security and nutrition multi-stakeholder platforms and structures should not only apply at country level, but also at regional level, and these platforms should be inclusive, including in particular those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, with, where feasible and suitable, the active engagement of RBAs and their country offices.
- The policy convergence processes should involve not only ministries and experts from capital from the beginning but also all relevant actors, to increase ownership of policy convergence outputs both at country and regional levels.
- Commitment from RBAs will be strengthened to facilitate the use and application of CFS policy converge work in countries, at the request of countries, including through work programs and partnership agreements with countries and stakeholders. RBAs will also support the development of communication and outreach materials, in line with the response to Recommendation 11.
- RBAs should be encouraged, through the appropriate channels, to include CFS as a regular agenda item in their Governing body meetings.
- Member countries should be invited to make voluntary commitments and draft concrete plans on the use and application of CFS products, presenting the results of their efforts at Plenary.
- There is a need to collect experiences at country level on existing food security and nutrition multi-stakeholder platforms and structures.
- Member countries should be invited to strengthen links between CFS policy processes and outcomes and on-going initiatives and agendas of regional intergovernmental mechanisms and organizations, to strengthen policy coherence at this level.

Actions to be taken

Participants agreed that there is a distinction between improving the functioning of CFS and better promoting the dissemination, use and application of CFS policy outcomes. It was recognized that Members had primary responsibility but other stakeholders should provide support.

2. Draft response to recommendation 11 (Responsibilities for communication and activities)

Chapeau text

It was agreed to include the following in paragraph 11:

- Include social media as a means for raising awareness of CFS
- Apart from reporting to global bodies such as UN ECOSOC, information should also be shared with other UN bodies as appropriate

It was agreed to revise the text of paragraph 12 to incorporate RBA's clarification that they would, in response to countries' requests, continue to leverage interactions with national authorities and stakeholders to actively promote CFS and mainstream its products into policies and programmes, where relevant to their priorities.

Actions to be taken

Participants agreed that the CFS communication and outreach strategy should be revised and more emphasis should be placed on supporting the dissemination, use and application of CFS policy products and recommendations and raising awareness of CFS (versus promoting CFS). Participants agreed that the implementing body should be the Secretariat, with advice from RBAs, and after consultation with the Bureau and Advisory Group, noting that this changes the action from a political one to an executive one.

3. Draft response to recommendation 12 (Dissemination and use of HLPE reports)

Chapeau text

It was agreed that the recommendation should not be rejected but partially accepted as the first part of the recommendation on encouraging member countries to disseminate HLPE reports to their relevant ministries at country level was accepted.

HLPE reports were recognized as background documents for CFS. CFS stakeholders are encouraged to continue disseminate HLPE reports to the relevant ministries at country level, recognizing that they are not CFS-endorsed policy recommendations. RBAs are encouraged to consider CFS-policy recommendations in their programme of work instead of HLPE reports.

It was agreed that there would be no action task for this recommendation and that the recommendation would be considered in the implementation of the response to Recommendation 7. The issue of resources was deemed to be applicable for the whole HLPE process and not exclusively to translation, hence it was agreed that the mention of translation would be removed.

Follow-up

The discussion to finalize the draft response to evaluation recommendations 10, 13 and 14 will continue on 24 January 2018. The revised draft response to recommendations 7, 10, 11, 12, 12 and 14 will be presented to the Bureau and Advisory Group on 31 January 2018 for discussion and for agreement by the Bureau at its meeting on the same day.