

**Initial general comments:**

Remark on the **direction of the process**: We want to underline what is said in paragraph 1 of this document and what needs to be applied now: It is fundamental that this process in response to the CFS evaluation has the **objective to strengthening of the CFS**. We do not think that proposals that aim to weaken the political relevance of CFS should be particularly considered.

**The bottom line** for the discussions in this context is **what is in the CFS Reform Document and what has been agreed by the CFS** during the past years. Discussions on what should be done to strengthen the CFS beyond this bottom line are important and should be conducted, to make sure that CFS can effectively address today's increasing challenges of food insecurity and malnutrition. However, **we cannot support proposals that are below this bottom line**. The decisions taken by the CFS, for example on human rights and the rights to adequate food, on women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality or on the CFS monitoring mechanism need to be respected within these discussions, they must not be undermined. These considerations should lead our collective deliberations. **The ambition of this document must be to strengthen the CFS in full respect of what has been decided and achieved so far, and to make it stronger and more effective, to address the huge challenges of increasing hunger and malnutrition of today and the near future!**

**I. Introduction**

Para 1: We suggest to **include the CFS Vision statement (currently in the box of the first page) into paragraph 1 of the document**, after the second sentence that ends with the words "cornerstone of CFS work"

Para 1, fourth sentence: the reference to the new global FSN environment should be qualified, by **adding a sentence on the alarming situation of increasing hunger and malnutrition in the world**, before referring to the more institutional global commitments

**Section II. Key Elements to improve CFS**

**Paragraph 5**

- sentence 3, add after "...reformed CFS continues to be fully relevant within the UN architecture" **and the global governance on food security and nutrition**.
- end of sentence 2: when referring to "comparative advantage", a **footnote** should be introduced that would explain that the meaning of this concept will be further explained in the annex.

**Paragraph 6 – Part 2 (Demand Driven)**

- Ensuring that CFS work is guided by the needs **and rights** of the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition

**Paragraph 6 –Part 3 (Prioritization)**

- Include: Focusing on **critical, urgent and emerging** FSN issues.....
- Not only positive change but an **impact for** people suffering from malnutrition and food insecurity.
- **Delete the last part of the sentence** that starts with "taking into account..." We particularly do not support the proposal that the availability of resources should be among the criteria for selecting themes for the CFS agenda

### **Paragraph 6 – Part 6 (Uptake)**

We suggest strengthening this element by revising it in the following way:

Uptake **and accountability** – Increasing awareness of CFS and promoting the dissemination, use, application and **monitoring of CFS policy outcomes** (the word *voluntary can be taken out*, as the voluntary nature of CFS policy recommendations is common knowledge)

### **Paragraph 8**

We suggest including a reference that would say, that the strategic objectives of MYPOW should not only refer to the global priorities in the field of FSN, but also **respond to the needs and demands of the most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition**.

### **Section on DIRECTION**

#### **Paragraph 9**

This paragraph aims to clarify the roles of the CFS but presents a confusion of them. All 6 roles are roles of the CFS, as it was already recognized during the CFS evaluation discussions. This paragraph needs to be completely rephrased after the clarification of roles which will be discussed on 2 May.

We particularly remind that the roles 3, 4 and 5 are also roles of the CFS. They are fundamental to make the CFS more effective on the ground, particularly through an enhanced use, application and monitoring of its policy outcomes.

There seems to be also an underlying misunderstanding of what the actually CFS is: The CFS as a Committee consists of its members and participants and functions through its bodies. It is misleading to separate the Committee from its members and participants, they are the Committee. The Committee is not only or mainly the CFS secretariat or its budget. Accordingly, all roles of the CFS have significance and implications for its members, participants and bodies.

#### **Paragraph 10 – Strategic Objectives**

##### **Alternative proposals for strengthening the strategic objectives:**

##### **SO1**

*Platform: Serve as the world-leading and foremost inclusive policy coordination platform to foster collaborative action and develop global policy debates, recommendations and messages in response to critical, urgent and emerging FSN issues*

##### **SO2**

*Policy: Develop global policy analysis and guidelines for policy convergence and coherence to ensure FSN and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food*

##### **SO3**

*Uptake and Accountability: Foster the uptake of CFS policy outcomes through enhanced dissemination, use, application and monitoring at all levels*

**Add gender as crosscutting Strategic Objective** by using agreed language from CFS 44: “CFS also emphasizes the importance of mainstreaming gender equality, women’s and girls’ rights and women’s empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition in all CFS work streams, products and documents”

### **Section Demand-Driven**

Chapeau: Not only needs but **rights** of the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition (see above)

#### **Paragraph 11**

Last sentence, simplifying the language: .....in particular SDG2 on ending hunger **and other FSN related SDGs**, guided by the Strategic Objectives and the CFS Vision.

#### **Paragraph 12**

Last sentence: The CFS Plenary should provide a space for multistakeholder dialogue and **policy coordination** on priority issues in the field of FSN where key stakeholders **discuss critical issues**. The suggestion is to add policy coordination and take back the formulation of the zero draft: discuss critical issues. The Plenary is not only to exchange point of views.

### **Section Prioritization**

Chapeau: *include critical, urgent and emerging FSN issues*, see above  
*take out* “taking into account.... see above

#### **Paragraph 15**

*Take out the notion of voluntary*. Add: Policy messages **and recommendations**

#### **Paragraph 16**

It should be clearly stated that the *inclusive process means that an OEWG format* is needed.

#### **Paragraph 17**

*Delete* “concrete indications of available resources” as criterion for selecting themes for the CFS agenda

### **Section HLPE**

#### **Paragraph 18**

The independence of the HLPE should be stressed here. Interaction between HLPE and AG/Bureau is good as long as the different roles and the independence of the HLPE are respected, and no confusion is generated about the ways of cooperation.

### **Section Ownership**

#### **Paragraph 21**

First sentence: The agenda will reflect critical, **urgent** and emerging issues on the global FSN agenda

Last sentence: CFS is a platform to generate ideas, synergies, **and to promote policy coordination and convergence**

#### **Paragraph 22:**

Take off the adjective “voluntary” here: voluntary commitment sounds really funny.

### **Section Uptake**

Chapeau: Uptake **and accountability** – Increasing awareness of CFS and promoting the dissemination, use, application and **monitoring of CFS policy outcomes** (see above)

The use of the word voluntary becomes a bit inflationary: three times in three paragraphs (chapeau, para 26 and para 27) – take it off

#### **Paragraph 26**

Add a sentence at the end of the paragraph saying: “CFS participants have a responsibility to promote the use and apply CFS policy outcomes in their programs and activities”.

**Paragraph 28**

Wording “as appropriate” is not appropriate here. It should say instead: ....sharing information ***with other relevant UN bodies***

**Paragraph 32**

The CFS monitoring framework should have three pillars:

- Follow-up and review of global trends on FSN and right to food, achievements, shortcomings and challenges;
- assess the effectiveness of CFS;
- monitor the use and application of CFS policy outcomes.

The table in the annex to the implementation report, as it stands now, provides a better starting point for these discussion.

**Paragraph 34**

Funding of the budget of the MYPoW should be secured for a 4-year period: we suggest to add a sentence in that direction

*CFS members should consider proposing to the RBA governance bodies a significant increase of contributions to the CFS overall budget for the MYPOW period 2020-2023.*