

CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting
Date: 14 and 17 May 2019
Ethiopia Room, FAO

Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes - With Bureau's Decisions

Agenda

1. Sustainable Forestry for FSN
2. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise – 2018 and updated template for 2020
3. CFS Workstream updates
4. Process for Agroecological Approaches and other Innovations
5. HLPE Steering Committee Renewal
6. Involvement of the CFS Chair in the International Steering Committee of the UNDF
7. CFS Advisory Group renewal
8. Any other business

After opening the meeting, the CFS Chair noted a proposal to add to the agenda for the Bureau meeting on Friday a decision to add the CFS Chair to the International Steering Committee of the UN Decade on Family Farming. The CFS Chair also proposed, and participants agreed, that Alternate Members be allowed to speak.

1. Sustainable Forestry for FSN

At the joint meeting, several members highlighted the positive aspects of the CFS policy recommendations on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition and the related HLPE report. These documents should represent the starting point for an event, on 17 September 2019 at FAO, that promotes a forward-looking perspective on potential use and implementation of the CFS policy recommendations.

The important role of commercial plantations for FSN was stressed, along with the view that the topic should be addressed from a technical point of view and introduced by a presentation on the multifaceted roles and dimensions of commercial plantations. This would set the stage for an inclusive and informed discussion on the related challenges and opportunities toward sustainable forest management, including commercial plantations and forest restoration.

It was suggested that the half-day event could be an opportunity to deal with issues related to governance and the need to promote policy coherence across the different sectors dealing with forestry. Additional suggestions addressed issues such as the nutritional outcomes of agroforestry production and the contribution of sustainable forestry to the livelihoods of smallholders and forest-dependent groups. FAO offered its technical support for the preparation of the opening technical presentation while CGIAR offered its technical support for the preparation of the concept note and agenda of the meeting.

It was also suggested that the Chair of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food be invited to participate in the event.

The written inputs submitted by the Advisory Group members after the meeting are posted on the Bureau and Advisory Group section of the CFS Working Space.

Bureau meeting

The Bureau welcomed the suggestions received during the joint meeting with the Advisory Group and the technical support offered by FAO and CGIAR. CFS Bureau members agreed to the possible

participation in the event by the COFO Chair and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, pending their availability.

CFS Bureau members were informed that the draft agenda and concept note of the September 17 event, will be circulated in July.

2. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise – 2018 and updated template for 2020

At the joint meeting, the reports submitted by the Advisory Group members were well-received as they show their respective commitment and detailed involvement in the work and success of CFS.

Bureau members were asked to share these reports among their regional groups.

Given the important role played by all AG members, it was stressed that all should complete the annual exercise, and all should seek to deploy CFS products whenever, and wherever, possible so as to expand their use and uptake.

Bureau meeting

The Bureau underlined the relevance of the reporting exercise and commended the important contribution and the commitment of Advisory Group members to the work of CFS.

The CFS Chair suggested that a brief summary of reporting highlights be attached as an annex to the CFS Annual Report presented to Plenary. Likewise, the idea of a side event for AG members was suggested to present annual reports with specific attention to work done to promote implementation and use of CFS policy products.

3. CFS Workstream updates

The CFS Chair shared the calendar of regional consultations on the zero draft of the Voluntary Guidelines on Nutrition and Food Systems. Advisory Group members asked about the participation of CFS in the High-Level Political Forum in July and the SDG Summit in September in New York. The Secretariat informed that the participation of the CFS Chair in both events is yet to be confirmed, and that members would be kept informed of any news on the topic.

4. Process for Agroecological Approaches and other Innovations

At the joint meeting, CFS Bureau and Advisory Group members had a preliminary discussion on the follow up process for policy convergence on “Agroecological Approaches and other Innovations”. It was underlined that a policy convergence process is expected to be conducted during the 2019-20 intersessional period.

The HLPE Coordinator informed that the release of the Summary and Recommendations of the HLPE Report on ‘Agro-ecological Approaches and other Innovations’ is expected by early June, with the full report launch set for July 3 at FAO.

The CFS Chair informed of the expression of interest of Ambassador Mohammad Hossein Emadi (Iran) to act as Rapporteur for this policy convergence process. The Secretariat informed that this topic will again be on the Bureau/Advisory Group and Bureau agendas “for decision” at a later state, including nomination of the Rapporteur(s), whose work would commence after Plenary.

Bureau meeting

CFS Bureau members recalled that, as per the ongoing 2020-23 MYPoW discussion, the policy convergence process on ‘Agroecological Approaches and other Innovations’ is scheduled for 2019-2020, i.e. the intersessional period between CFS 46 and CFS 47. CFS Bureau members also recalled that, at the 31 January meeting, it was decided that the plenary session at CFS 46 will give an opportunity to provide feedback on the content of the HLPE Report and guidance for the policy convergence process.

CFS Bureau agreed that, following Plenary, the Secretariat will prepare a zero draft of a policy recommendations paper, with support from Rapporteur(s), technical focal points nominated by the RBAs, and others.

It was agreed to address the nomination of the Rapporteur(s), the schedule and other relevant process issues at a future Bureau meeting.

5. HLPE Steering Committee Renewal (Bureau only)

Bureau's decision

The Chair of the Ad hoc Technical Selection Committee, Mr Torero (FAO ES-ADG), presented the work of the selection committee and a list of proposed candidates for the renewal of the HLPE Steering Committee. The presentation highlighted the high standard of academic and technical quality of the 111 applicants and the rigorousness of the selection process, which was devoid of political considerations and adhered strictly to the legal framework and the applicable rules. The Chair of the Ad hoc Technical Selection Committee encouraged the CFS Bureau members to urge future applicants to familiarize themselves with the selection criteria and to comply with them to ensure the best, most inclusive application pool, based on existing criteria. CFS Bureau members commended the Ad hoc Technical Selection Committee for its professional, transparent methodology, which was unanimously recognized as a significant improvement from the past. CFS Bureau members agreed to approve 'ad referendum' the list of proposed candidates for the renewal of the HLPE Steering Committee, after one week of silent procedure to begin after the Secretariat circulates a briefing paper on the methodology followed (e.g. because the briefing paper was subsequently circulated on Monday 21 May, the silent procedure will expire at COB Monday, 27 May). CFS Bureau members suggested that the HLPE Secretariat improve communications with Bureau members to ensure adequate regional expertise and gender balance under the applicable rules. Another suggestion proposed for future selection processes was, in case of equal qualifications of two candidates of the same region, should one be dropped, that preference is given to the candidate of a country never represented in the HLPE Steering Committee.

6. Involvement of the CFS Chair in the International Steering Committee of the UNDF

Participants of the joint meeting agreed that the CFS Chair should be a full, permanent member of the International Steering Committee of the UNDF.

Bureau's decision

CFS Bureau members agreed to formally request the International Steering Committee of the UNDF to bestow a full, permanent seat to the CFS Chair.

7. CFS Advisory Group renewal (Bureau only)

Bureau's decision

With regard to the Chair's proposal to elevate the status of the RBAs in the Advisory Group to become ex-officio and extra-quota members of the AG, the CFS Chair noted that the FAO Legal Counsel and the RBAs had expressed their support for the proposal, which in practice liberates three seats for other stakeholders. The Bureau agreed to debate possible ways forward in its meeting of 25 July, which will be informed by a background paper from the Secretariat and consultations led by the Chair. In responding to a request for clarification, the Chair explained the process for inviting ad hoc participants into the AG, referring to Rule IV, paragraph 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the CFS. The Bureau agreed to renew the mandate of the Advisory Group until 22 July 2019.

8. Any other business

With regard to Plenary statements, at the joint meeting, the Secretary informed the participants of the proposal for offering the opportunity for delegates to record video statements for interventions that may exceed three minutes. This proposal was well received and, if the Bureau agrees, the Secretariat can prepare a detailed rollout plan and the opportunity can be communicated to delegations.

With regard to plenary statements, some participants requested that plenary statements delivered on behalf of regional groups or mechanisms be given up to 5 minutes.

With regard to the MYPoW, the Secretary informed that the Secretariat is working on the first draft of the 2020-23 MYPoW document, which will be shared in advance of the joint meeting of June 3. The revised document will seek to align the ambition of the 4 year MYPoW with a predictable budget envelop. The revised document will be based on the outcomes of the second open meeting on MYPoW and written comments received thereafter. Several participants suggested that the workstream on “Reducing inequalities” should not be dropped, and the proposal on “Data collection and analysis” be further elaborated, with an eye toward considering how/if this will fit in the coming MYPoW.

Annex 1: List of attendees of the joint Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Mario Arvelo (CFS Chair / Dominican Republic); Ms Ángela Teves Libarona (Argentina); Mr Luis Fernando Ceciliano (Costa Rica); Mr Gustaf Daud Sirait (Indonesia); Ms Valentina Savastano (Italy); Ms Anna-Marie Moulton (South Africa); Ms Liliane Ortega (Switzerland); Ms Emily Katkar, Ms Silvia Giovanazzi (USA).

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Felipe Carlos Antunes (Brazil); Ms Mi Nguyen (Canada); Mr Oliver Mellenthin (Germany); Ms Traore Halimatou Koné (Mali).

Advisory Group:

Mr Mark McGuire (FAO); Mr Shantanu Mathur, Ms Jordana Blankman (IFAD); Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Ms Serena Pepino (UN Special Rapporteur Right to Food); Ms Marzella Wüstefeld (WHO); Ms Stineke Oenema (UNSCN); Mr R.D. Cooke (CGIAR); Ms Astrid Jakobs de Padua (World Bank); Mr Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Mr Rodolfo González Greco, Mr Saul Vicente Vázquez, Ms Teresa Maisano, Mr Luca Bianchi, Ms Nora McKean, Mr Stefano Prato, Ms Magdalena Ackermann, Ms Delphine Ortega (CSM); Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (BMGF); Ms Giulia de Castro (WFO).

Observers:

Ms Liudmila Kuzmicheva, Ms Diana Infante (Dominican Republic); Mr Damien Kelly, Ms Deborah Di Salvatore (European Union); Ms Anna Verkaik, Ms Maaïke van den Berg (Netherlands); Ms Gemma Cornuau (France); Mr Zoltán Kalmán, Ms Judit Szentés (Hungary); Ms Sanna Luomanperä (Finland).

CFS Secretariat:

Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Ms Françoise Trine, Ms Cordelia Salter, Ms Aya Shneerson, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator).

Annex 2: List of attendees of the Bureau Meeting

CFS Bureau Members:

Mr Mario Arvelo (CFS Chair / Dominican Republic); Mr Nazareno Montani (Argentina); Ms Tian Jiani (China); Mr Luis Fernando Ceciliano (Costa Rica); Mr Mitiku Tesso Jebessa (Ethiopia); Mr Gustaf Daud Sirait (Indonesia); Ms Valentina Savastano (Italy); Mr Don Syme (New Zealand); Ms Liliane Ortega, Mr Jacopo Schurch (Switzerland); Ms Emily Katkar, Ms Silvia Giovanazzi (USA). Ms Anna-Marie Moulton (South Africa) presented excuses.

CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Felipe Carlos Antunes (Brazil); Ms Mi Nguyen (Canada); Mr Oliver Mellenthin (Germany); Ms Traore Halimatou Koné (Mali).

Observers:

Ms Julia Vicioso (Dominican Republic); Mr Damien Kelly, Ms Deborah Di Salvatore (European Union); Ms Delphine Babin-Pellier (France); Ms Eetu Tulonen (Finland); Mr Rafael Osorio (Spain).

CFS Secretariat:

Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Ms Françoise Trine, Ms Cordelia Salter, Ms Aya Shneerson, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator).