

MEETING ON ISSUES NOT ADDRESSED DURING THE CFS POLICY DISCUSSIONS ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY FOR FSN

BACKGROUND

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) at its 44th Session in October 2017 endorsed a [set of policy recommendations on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition](#). These policy recommendations have been elaborated building upon the main findings of the report prepared by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of CFS (HLPE) on that matter that was launched in June 2017.

The Committee also “encouraged the CFS Bureau to consider convening a specific meeting, inviting the Rome-based Agencies, to discuss the issues that were not sufficiently discussed during the policy convergence process, including the relation between commercial plantations and food security and nutrition, and requested the CFS Secretariat to map the recommendations with relevant SDGs and targets, subject to available resources and the workload of CFS”¹.

This matter was addressed at the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting held in January 2018 where “it was recalled that, in line with the Plenary decision and the subsequent Bureau guidance in 2017, the organization of the event should not have an impact on the budget and workload of the Committee. This implies no additional background material prepared by the Secretariat, no interpretation and no summary/records of the meeting. The objective would be simply to provide an open space to discuss issues some stakeholders felt received insufficient attention during the process. [...] A request was made on the possibility to mandate a technical task team to prepare this event and to postpone it to spring 2019. This would allow reflecting on how this event could contribute to the global debate around plantations by creating an inclusive debate that brings out agreements and contradictions between all the different actors”².

“In light of suggestions made in the joint meeting for a much more ambitious event, entailing significant planning and resources and possible implications for future MYPoWs, the Bureau felt there was a lack of shared understanding on the purpose and was concerned that moving forward at this point risked breaking trust with the Plenary. The Bureau decided to postpone the decision on whether and when to hold this meeting to its first meeting after CFS 45”³.

EXPECTED DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY THE BUREAU ON 23 NOVEMBER 2018

In line with the abovementioned indications, the CFS Bureau, following consultation with its Advisory Group, is expected to decide on 23 November on whether to hold this meeting, its potential focus and scope, as well as on the possible date.

¹ CFS 2017/44/Report, paragraph 21d - <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mv030e.pdf>

² CFS/BurAG/2018/01/31/Outcomes

³ CFS/Bur/2018/01/31/Outcomes