Hungarian comments on the

CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) for 2020-2023

First Draft

2.1.1. Food systems and Nutrition

Rationale:

We propose to add the reference to the drivers of malnutrition, as highlighted in yellow:

"Combatting malnutrition in all its forms – undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity – is one of the greatest global challenges that countries face today. Urgent joint actions are needed to identify the main drivers and address these challenges and the negative impact of malnutrition. It is crucial to promote policies that shape food systems to improve nutrition and enable healthy diets, bearing in mind the importance of improving economic, social and environmental sustainability of agriculture and food systems."

Objectives and expected outcomes:

We recommend complementing this segment and underline the contribution of these Voluntary Guidelines to achieving the objectives of the UN Decade on Nutrition. Furthermore, the clear interlinkage of the VG with the implementation of recommendations of the ICN2 would be also very much appropriate.

2.1.2. Agroecological approaches and other innovations

Rationale:

We propose the following changes in the first paragraph of this section, highlighted in yellow:

"The global food system is at a crossroads. In the face of a rapidly growing population, increased pressure and competition over natural resources, increasingly severe consequences of climate change, degradation of soils and the loss of biodiversity, sustainable and innovative approaches need to be developed and applied to successfully combat hunger and malnutrition. It is key to promote more sustainable agriculture and food systems that produce more with more socio-economic benefits and with less negative environmental consequences. During the policy convergence process due attention will be paid to existing CFS policy recommendations, in particular that of 2016 on Sustainable agriculture for FSN including the role of livestock."

2.1.4. Putting youth at the centre: engaging youth in FSN policies and practices; and promoting for youth in agriculture and food systems and improving rural livelihood.

Although agriculture is closely related to the rural areas, the concept of decent jobs should not be limited to rural areas. At the same time, the concept of improving rural livelihood should be introduced, with the aim to making rural life more attractive to young people, including through better infrastructure and providing basic services (schools, IT coverage, etc.).

Along these lines, we propose to streamline these changes throughout the text (Rationale, Objective and Outcome) as proposed in the title.

In addition, we think that relevant previous CFS policy products such as RAI Principles and RBA's related strategies and other documents should be referred to as well.

2.1.5. Data collection and analysis tools.

We acknowledge that there are widespread data gaps in agriculture and it is undoubtable that data collection, analysis and use are necessary to make possible and prepare better evidence-based policy decisions. Organisations such as FAO, World Bank and others are well placed to provide the necessary capacity development to countries requiring this assistance.

However, in our view this does not provide sufficient reasoning concerning the need for the preparation of a HLPE report on this specific issue and we do not see very much clear, what value added would have a CFS workstream around this topic.

The limited support received to the proposal (USA and BMGF are the only the promoters) is also questioning whether it is appropriate to include this proposal in the MYPOW.

On the basis of the above, and with a view to avoid overburdening CFS, we do not support the inclusion of this workstream in the MyPOW.

On 2.1.6. Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition

This proposal has been prepared and submitted as a result of a constructive collaboration of FAO, IFAD and Permanent Representatives of 3 countries (Indonesia, South Africa, Hungary) from different Regions and has received wide support during the previous rounds of discussions.

We agree with the inclusion of this workstream in the MYPOW and fully support it, with some slight modifications proposed by a joint submission earlier today by CSM, also on behalf of Indonesia and Hungary.