

15 October PM

OUTCOME OF THE FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR

Chairperson

I hope that everyone attended the several side events that we had during part of the lunch break.

I am really happy to put to Plenary the proposal as how we are going to continue. We are behind time but, we are going to try and make up for that time and try to get in line with what was planned when we approved not only the agenda but, also, the timetable for the implementation of that agenda.

Just so we are all on the same page, item two, on the state of food security and nutrition in the world, has still not been completed. We have a list of speakers who will be taking the floor on that item at the end of this afternoon's work. That is what I wanted to say about item two.

On item three, which is the CFS and the Sustainable Development Goals, lessons learned, on that the only thing that is still pending is this famous Chair's summary.

On item four, celebrating the international day of rural women, on that one we had a list of delegations who wanted to take the floor. We only had one member country, Burkina Faso, and we contacted them and they said that they could withdraw their name.

On item five, food systems and nutrition, that is still pending. As you remember, when we were introducing this, I explained that there will be two parts to this. In the first part, we were going to have the presentations and the panel and then in the second part, we would deal with the issue of the second international conference on nutrition. So, that is what we are going to be doing shortly because what we are going to do now is give you the outcome of the meeting that was held by the CFS friends of the Chairman group. That meeting was called in order to find a solution to a situation that arose here in the Plenary. Many members, member countries and NGOs took the floor and it was very difficult to actually come to an agreement as to how we would continue on the question of the Chair's summaries. The Chair convened a meeting of the friends of the Chair, members of the bureau and other delegates from their respective regions. So, we met next door in the Caribbean room as of 1 p.m. and we were all standing. There was many people present in actual fact. We had representatives from all of the regional groups and in the course of that meeting the Chair put forward a potential solution which I will sum up for you now.

As the Chairperson's report for issues debated by the Committee, the proposal is as follows:

It will include the following text in what we will send to the Drafting Committee in order for them to prepare the draft of the final report which will be submitted to the Plenary on Friday afternoon. I am going to read this in English for you.

Committee heard a session, moderated by X, meaning the names and authority, the titles of the person who moderated and it follows, which included XXX

So, the Committee heard a session, moderated by X, which included;

- A keynote by X, and then the person who provided that keynote, if a keynote was provided.
- A question and answer session with X, and then the person or persons who participated from the podium in the question and answer session, if applicable.
- A panel discussion with X, and then names and titles of the individuals that acted as panellists, again from the podium. Followed by statements by members and participants.

The full transcript of the session is included verbatim on the CFS website.

Now, I will explain further by reading what we will have for item three, outstanding in terms of the Chair's summary. It would read, what we would be sending if agreed to the Drafting Committee.

The Committee heard a session, moderated by Ms Carin Smaller, Director for Agriculture, Trade and Investment at the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), which included:

- A keynote speech by Ms Hilal Elver, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food.
- A question and answer session with Ms Maria Francesca Spatolisano, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs.
- A panel discussion with Mr Roy Jay S. Dacumos, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), The Philippines, Mr Neil Briscoe, Department for International Development (DfID), United Kingdom, Mr Saul Vicente Vasquez, International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) and Mr Sean de Cleene, World Economic Forum.

The full transcript of the session is included verbatim on the CFS website.

This is the example of what the Chair's summary would be for item three. I would also like to add that this is technically possible. We have discussed, we have had a meeting with the FAO technical team which is responsible for drawing up the transcriptions for the meetings of the Conference and Council and they have told us that it is technically possible to have that ready so that it is already on the CFS website before the final report is approved.

I can tell you very briefly that the Secretary, Mr Hegadorn, who is present here, on the 18th of March, when he came into the Secretariat, he sat down with the members of the Secretariat and they went through, point by point, looking at the cost breakdown of this Plenary and they saw point by point where savings could be made and, actually, we are talking about quite a substantial figure, a six figure number, USD 100,000 and so that figure largely covers the cost which would be involved in actually establishing these transcriptions. To stress once again, those would be ready by Friday morning.

I would like to invite the Secretariat, at this stage, to inform us which items on the agenda of the 46th Session would be covered by this formula which was put by the Chair to the informal group of friends of the Chair. Everyone there agreed that that was the path to be followed. Obviously, the Chairman raised the point, we had a conversation. The original proposal was tweaked here and there as questions arose, clarification was requests and everyone agreed that this was a good to put to Plenary. This is one of the points that emerged from that meeting. The Secretariat is now going to inform us on which points of the agenda we will actually use this formula.

Secretary

Thank you, Mr Chair. We are looking at the document CFS2019\46\INF.1. The items that this would address include items two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine and eleven. That is nine, we have decision boxes for items ten and the item that will be addressed Thursday late afternoon at 5.30 p.m. So, nine items in the order I have mentioned.

Chairperson

Maybe I should add that the items under any other matters, item 12, because those are decisions as well, the election of the new Chair, the new bureau, the location and dates for CFS47.

Again, we would be utilizing this formula for all matters except organizational, that is item one, except for the multi-year programme of work, the MYPOW, which is item ten, for which there is a decision box that the Bureau is sending to Plenary for consideration and all the decisions under other matters, the rules' amendment, the election of the Chair and the Bureau, the location and venue for the next CFS and, of course, the approval of final report because all those are decision boxes that have already been pre-cooked for debate and decision by the Plenary.

Can I then get agreement from Plenary that this is a formula that we can utilize for the items indicated?

I see general agreement. The hammer is coming down. Thank you.