

New Draft Terms of Reference for the preparation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Delegation of Argentina - Specific Comments

Continuing the OEWG on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) discussions, we would like to submit to your attention our comments and suggestions regarding the new proposal of terms of reference.

A.- Regarding Section A "Background and rationale", our comment is:

3. Gender equality and women's empowerment is essential to achieving all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as ~~to fostering transformation toward~~ **ensuring** food systems that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. The importance of gender equality and women's empowerment for sustainable development was acknowledged by the international community through the adoption of gender equality as a stand-alone goal in the 2030 Agenda (SDG5). Realizing gender equality and empowering women and girls will make a crucial contribution across all of the Agenda's goals and targets. Thus, systematic mainstreaming of gender perspectives in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is critically important.

Rationale: The concept of "transformation" of food systems, although we recognize its usefulness, has been debated in different working areas of FAO without reaching consensus. Some positions argue that not all food systems must carry out a transformation process, since they currently present degrees of sustainability; regardless that they have room to continue improving.

In this sense, and bearing in mind the content of the SDG 2.4, we think that instead of referring to the need to transform food systems, the paragraph should emphasize the importance of **ensuring** the sustainability of food systems, in accordance with the language of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

B.- Concerning Section C “Scope of the Guidelines”, we would like to suggest the following:

14.5 Identify opportunities to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment and suggest strategies to overcome institutional and structural barriers and gender discrimination in the context of food security and nutrition, including in (but not limited to) the following areas:

- Women’s economic empowerment, considering gender division of labour and the gender roles in **food security and nutrition** and ~~nutrition security~~ and agriculture throughout the agrifood systems, with a focus on production, utilization, commercialization, and consumption;

Rationale: The term "nutrition security" has not been agreed at the multilateral level. Therefore, we suggest using the concept of "food security and nutrition" that is part of the agreed content of the 2030 Agenda.

- Access to appropriate ~~and sustainable~~ technologies, including ICT-based, digital and agri-innovations;

Rationale: There is still no agreed definition on the scope or meaning of the concept "sustainable technologies". In this sense, and considering that the terms of reference should allude to already defined conceptual tools, we understand that it would be better to remove the adjective "sustainable" and not qualify the qualities that technologies could have.