Dear Members of the Open-Ended Working Group,

The OEWG meeting on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment of 25 May PM was cancelled. An OEWG meeting is now scheduled on Monday 5 July, 9.30-12.30. The decision to cancel the 25 May OEWG meeting was taken by the CFS Bureau on 21 May in consultation with me, as more time was needed to finalize the negotiations on the CFS policy recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches, which are planned to be submitted to CFS 48 Plenary for approval on 4 June 2021.

The objective of the 5 July meeting is to discuss the Zero Draft of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition. In order to use the time we have before the 5 July meeting as effectively as possible, I invite you to share written comments on the preliminary version of the Zero Draft of the Guidelines, which can be downloaded from the working space of the CFS website<http://www.fao.org/cfs/workingspace/workstreams/gender?21>, by Tuesday 8 June, by sending them to CFS@fao.org. Your comments will be incorporated into a revised version of the document, which will be circulated before the 5 July meeting. We are investigating the possibility of translating the document into the FAO’s official languages before the meeting. The revised version will be discussed and finalized after the OEWG meeting on 5 July.

Best regards,

Satu Lassila
Permanent Representative of Finland to the Rome-based Agencies