

Germany's position on the Zero Draft of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition

General remarks:

- GER thanks the CFS Secretariat for developing the preliminary version of the Zero Draft of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition as it is essential to achieving all SDGs of the 2030 Agenda and advocates the empowerment and equal participation of all women and girls - especially in the field of agriculture and rural areas.
- We welcome the structured framework of the process and we appreciate the transparent procedure.
- We also look forward to the possibility of regional consultation.

Part 2:

- Women play a significant role in the production, processing and marketing of food and thus make a particular contribution to food security and thus the realization of the human right to adequate food.
- We appreciate the thorough human rights-based approach that is systematically considered in the Zero Draft.
- The full and equal participation of women in the establishment and development of industrial and service sectors - particularly in the area of agriculture and rural development, which is so important for fighting hunger and malnutrition in all its forms - needs to be substantially promoted.
- We appreciate the gender-transformative approach to food systems.

Part 3:

- Section 3.1, para 30: We suggest a reformulation for para 30 (the listed examples are all part of gender-based violence) as follows: "Violence against women is among the most serious barriers that hinder women from unfolding their full potential and that stand in the way of women's full participation in society and their advancement in leadership. All forms of gender-based violence, including physical, psychological, sexual as well as online violence and attacks, intimidation, harassment and abuse persist in all countries."
- Section 3.1, para 34: add "gender" before "quotas"
- Section 3.2, para 41: Here we have a basic suggestion: Women's rights are enshrined in the UN Women's Rights Convention (CEDAW), which has been ratified by 189 states, as the most important international convention on women's rights. We would very much appreciate it, if CEDAW would be named as an international framework somewhere in these guidelines, e.g. right at the beginning of the para 41 so that it would be read as follows: "Though the human rights of women are legally enshrined on international level in the UN Convention of the Elimination of all

Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which 189 States to date have ratified, there are still many (...).”

- Section 3.3: We especially support the emphasis on addressing unpaid care work and women’s labor burden as well as women’s voice and leadership as they are vital for women’s and girl’s empowerment in the agricultural sector.
- Section 3.4, para 54: first sentence: please add: „ (...) and underpaid part-time jobs.“
- Section 3.5: From a German point of view, it is also important that women’s land rights and access to land as natural and productive resources are central to achieving food security and women’s and girls’ empowerment and a crucial leverage to address structural inequalities and discrimination in many areas. This is also of importance as girls and women are often disproportionately affected by climate change. We especially appreciate the fact that attention is also being paid to the customary laws and social norms that in practice largely determine women’s access to and control over land.
- Section 3.5 para 69: Add “inter alia”: “It is important women actively participate in the debates and decisions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that, inter alia, supports climate change activities in developing countries.”
- Section 3.8, para 101: As Gender-based discrimination starts already during childhood, we would appreciate a reference to girls in the problem statement: “Discrimination and violence against women and girls (...).”