

**CFS Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group meeting and CFS Bureau meeting**

**Dates: 18 and 23 March 2022**

**Time: 14:00 - 17:00 and 9:30 – 12:30**

**Hybrid meetings (Zoom Platform + Red Room)**

**Bureau and Advisory Group Meeting Outcomes -  
With Bureau Decisions**

**Agenda**

- A. Substantive segment I: SDG 2 and Financing for Sustainable Development**
- B. Substantive segment II: Impacts on global food security of the conflict in Ukraine**

1. Selection of the theme for HLPE 2024 report:
  - a. Workplan - with Bureau decision
  - b. Preliminary discussions on themes suggested in the HLPE Note “Critical, Enduring and Emerging issues for food security and nutrition”
2. CFS 50 Agenda and Timetable – with Bureau decision (Bureau only)
3. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise (postponed)
4. CFS Workstreams, Intersessional Events, and Budget Updates
5. Any other business

The meeting started with the adoption of the provisional agenda and informing that the meeting would be recorded, as per usual practice, for the Secretariat’s note-taking purposes.

After that, the CFS Chairperson opened the meeting with a reflection on the conflict in Ukraine, the loss of lives, the human suffering, and the potential impact of the conflict on increased food insecurity globally.

He recalled that Ukraine and the Black Sea region are one of the world’s most important areas for grain and other agricultural exports, hence this war hits all people across the globe through our interconnected global food system. The most vulnerable, the poorest and most excluded people and communities will be hit hardest, he underscored.

In this new global context, he stressed, the CFS will rise to the occasion and will strive to provide its inclusive and intergovernmental platform to foster coordinated policy responses to the impacts of this crisis on hunger, malnutrition and on sustainable and inclusive food systems – consistent with the vision and mandate of the reformed CFS.

## 1. Substantive segment I: SDG 2 and Financing for Sustainable Development

This first substantive discussion focused on the Means of Implementation: what it takes to achieve food security and nutrition; how much would it cost to properly finance sustainable and inclusive food systems, not just capable of ending hunger and malnutrition, but simultaneously delivering poverty eradication and reducing inequalities in all their dimensions, as well as on climate, biodiversity, soils and the rest of the SDGs.

In his introduction to this discussion, the CFS Chair recalled some key moments, including: the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015, and its Means of Implementation, which are an integral part of the SDGs; the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative, led by the UN Secretary General with the Prime Ministers of Canada and Jamaica, in 2020; and the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021, with its finance lever of change.

The CFS Chair also underscored that, at this time, when we face spiking food, energy and agricultural input prices, more and smarter investments in agriculture and food systems are needed, in order to advance transformation of food systems toward more resilient food supplies, more sustainable practices, and to empower smallholders, family farmers, SMEs and cooperatives. The Chair recalled the UN Secretary General's Statement of Action from the UNFSS, which states: 'There is also a need to shift and scale public and private financing for food, including for science and research. This innovation and change in financing approaches must avoid hidden - social, economic and environmental - costs and support healthier, more inclusive, and more sustainable outcomes'.

For this conversation, the CFS Chair invited three guests: Ms Satu Santala, Associate Vice-President of External Relations and Governance Department, IFAD; Mr Martien von Nieuwkoop, Global Director for Agriculture and Food, World Bank Group; and Mr Maurizio Navarra, Senior Partnership Officer and Coordinator of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, hosted at IFAD.

Ms Santala spoke of finance as a lever of change, underscoring the urgent need to mobilize additional funding for ending hunger by 2030 – an additional 33 billion USD per year over the next 10-12 years - and ensuring this funding reaches the poorest and most vulnerable. To this end, she highlighted the role of IFAD to channel finance to small-scale producers, promote investments in sustainable and inclusive food systems, and strengthen rural finance systems, aiming to enhance rural livelihoods by improving profitable business opportunities, and to generate income growth and sustainable employment opportunities by strengthening agricultural production systems.

Mr von Nieuwkoop spoke of a new *food finance architecture* needed to help optimize public capital, and mobilize and de-risk new private investment, a new architecture which is anchored on five core imperatives: (i) Reshape public support and incentives (ii) Integrate health, environmental and social risks into financial decision-making (iii) Scale fit-for-purpose financial products and business models (iv) Secure equitable food systems (v) Strengthen food governance and stability. Citing work done by the World Benchmarking Alliance, the

representative of the World Bank stressed the importance that food and beverage companies become part of the solution towards sustainable development improving their impact on environment, health, social inclusion, governance and strategy.

Mr Navarra, Coordinator of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (a donor network of 40 Members with a strategic focus on rural development and food systems) stressed that the new food systems approach makes coordination among donors even more critical to achieve needed levels of transformation. Unfortunately, he noted, the current trends are moving in the wrong direction, citing a new 'White Paper' from the Platform to be released on 20 April 2022, which will provide directions for advancing the food systems agenda, providing donors with responses, options and priorities to engage - with prominent focus on CFS policy guidance like the CFS VGGTs, CFS-RAI, and the VGFSyN.

During the open discussion, FAO recalled its recent report, jointly prepared with UNEP and UNDP, on repurposing agricultural incentives to transform food systems and to achieve the SDGs. Canada stressed the importance of increasing the impact of every dollar invested as the level of official ODA has remained unchanged. The World Benchmarking Alliance stressed the urgency to work together and take a holistic approach. The 'Hub' Coordinator highlighted the momentum created by the UN FSS and the opportunity for creating new standards to guide food system transformation.

In concluding, the CFS Chair highlighted that it is time for the CFS to revisit the means of implementation, and underlined that we need to boost investment in sustainable and inclusive agriculture and food systems. The Chair noted this would be the focus of a Global Thematic Event at CFS 50, where CFS will monitor impacts of the Principles for Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI Principles) where we will look for ways to further promote smart public and private investments at scale.

## 2. Substantive segment II: Impacts on global food security of the conflict in Ukraine

The second substantive discussion focused on the war in Ukraine and its impacts on global food security and nutrition. In this regard, the CFS Chair strongly encouraged all Members and Participants to focus the discussion on the food security and nutrition repercussions of the conflict, in line with the CFS mandate.

Mr Maximo Torero, FAO Chief Economist, highlighted the impacts on food security and nutrition, which are directly hit by spiking international food prices, for all groups of commodities, due to high global demand, energy prices, agricultural inputs prices, droughts, etc.

FAO's food price index has seen increases since the second half of 2020, and reached an all-time high - in nominal terms - in February 2022.

Mr Torero mentioned that the impacts of the Ukraine crisis on food security and nutrition are threefold:

1. Impacts on food and agriculture: the conflict has negative impact on food security and nutrition through production and trade disruptions, and constraints on logistics and infrastructure, which are being destroyed. He recalled the important role of the two countries (Russia and Ukraine) on input supplies (seeds, feeds, pesticides, and fertilizers), as well as the risks of diseases proliferation.
2. Impacts at macroeconomic level: through energy costs and increased use of crops for biofuels. He recalled that markets for natural gas, ammonia and urea are interrelated.
3. Humanitarian aspects of the crisis: increased needs, with a lot of refugees and IDPs, and a reduced capacity to procure food.

He concluded with some policy recommendations: keep trade open; avoid ad hoc and uncoordinated policy reactions; prepare for possible disease outbreaks; and prepare for possible nuclear contamination risks.

Mr Arif Hussain, WFP Chief Economist, highlighted that the impacts of the Ukraine crisis are already felt thousands of KM away, as this crisis does not happen in a vacuum. Indeed, the current crisis is deteriorating a situation that was already difficult due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences, with insufficient time for countries and individuals to recover, climate change, and existing conflicts in other parts of the world.

As per his analysis, this current situation is worse than in previous crises - in 2007-08 and 2011 - due to the impacts of COVID-19, and conflicts ongoing in Syria, Yemen, etc.

Globally, food security and nutrition was in a better state when these two other crises erupted than it is today.

For WFP, high food prices and energy costs – because of the Ukraine crisis - mean reduced ability to procure food. In addition, the US dollar was weak in previous crises while it is stronger today.

He underscored the high number of refugees and IDPs inside Ukraine who require immediate humanitarian assistance, for which two pre-conditions are necessary: having sufficient resources - today only 50% of resource needs have been secured; and, humanitarian access.

He also pointed to the fact that trade restrictions have detrimental impact on FSN, which WFP already experienced in 2008, hence it is important to avoid restrictions now.

Last, he highlighted the importance of ensuring transparency of markets to avoid speculation, and the crucial role of AMIS.

Ms Doaa Abdel-Motaal of WTO spoke about the trade dimensions of the conflict and the need to adopt a long-term vision, as both Ukraine and Russia are leading food exporters (12% of world's traded food calories) and among top exporters of fertilizers (including Belarus). Unfortunately, as pointed out by the speaker, we already observe a new wave of food export restrictions, by Ukraine itself, but also by other countries (e.g.; Serbia, Moldova, Hungary, Argentina, Algeria, Egypt, etc.). This is a serious issue as it reduces faith in the international

trading system, and leads to countries taking costly and ineffective measures (e.g.; building up food stocks).

The speaker also highlighted the impact of the conflict on net food importers, like Egypt, whose import bill will likely double this year, as Egypt is the biggest importer of wheat in the world.

Last, the speaker spoke about the issue of market concentration of food and agricultural inputs, which is hampering food security and nutrition, and hence the importance of opening those markets to more players.

A general debate followed, with Germany urging the CFS to continue discussing in future meetings the impacts of the conflict in Ukraine on global food security and nutrition; and CSM pointing to the CFS' Framework For Action for strengthening food security and nutrition in protracted crises.

In closing the discussion on these two substantive items, the CFS Chair proposed that such substantive discussions be web-streamed in the future to foster greater participation, including by colleagues from capitals.

### 3. Selection of a theme for HLPE 2024 report (with Bureau decision)

The CFS Chair highlighted the dual purpose of the agenda item: a) listen to preliminary ranked proposals from HLPE Steering Committee members on a proposed 'theme' for its 2024 report, including rationales for each; and b) discuss the process leading to agreement of a theme for the 2024 HLPE report.

The CFS Chair recalled that HLPE reports are normally requested by CFS under its Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW), and linked to planned policy convergence processes. He explained that the current MYPoW covers the period 2020-2023, and only includes HLPE report topics up to 2023, hence the need to select a theme for 2024 ahead of the formal process to decide the content of the MYPoW 2024-2027. The CFS Chair emphasized that the HLPE recommends the next MYPoW also include a HLPE report theme for 2028, to avoid a similar situation in 2027.

The preliminary ranked proposals presented by Vice Chair of the HLPE Steering Committee, Ms Jennifer Clapp, and HLPE Steering Committee Member, Ms. Hilal Elver, were generally well received by Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group Members. Suggestions were made to consider adjusting the title of the item on value chains to include the word "food"; also, suggestions were made to consider a focus on pandemic response and lessons learned, as well as on potentially combining elements of "resilience" with the item on "conflict." The HLPE Secretariat took note of the valuable inputs received, which will feed into the preparation of the Zero Draft of the HLPE's Note on Critical, Enduring and Emerging Issues (CEEI Note) in Food Security and Nutrition, which will be circulated in the coming weeks.

### **Bureau decision:**

The HLPE Secretariat and Steering Committee members took note of additional comments to the preliminary ranked proposals provided by Bureau Members, including requests to allow sufficient time for stakeholders to share feedback on the Zero Draft of the CEEI Note via e-consultation and written inputs received from Members.

The CFS Chair informed that a revised workplan will be circulated as an attachment to this Outcomes document.

#### 4. CFS 50 Agenda and Timetable – with Bureau decision

### **Bureau decision:**

The CFS Bureau adopted the Provisional Agenda of CFS 50 with the agreement that the title of item 2 be amended to reflect inputs suggested by Members. In this regard, and reflecting various proposals and suggestions received, the session will be listed with the following title: “THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2022. COORDINATING POLICY RESPONSES TO THE GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS”.

The CFS Bureau also provided positive feedback on the revised version of the CFS 50 Timetable. CFS Bureau members concurred on the need to keep a flexible approach in order to be able to amend the Agenda and Timetable, as needed, according to the evolving global situation.

The CFS Chair confirmed that the plenary will have a moment to celebrate the International Day of Rural Women on Tuesday morning, at the start of the item on Gender.

The CFS Chair and several Members stressed the importance of ensuring alignment between the organization of a CFS 50 “Special Event” on follow-up to the UN Food Systems Summit and the work of the FAO-hosted Coordination Hub, should this be the theme selected, as requested by several Members.

On the format of the plenary, the CFS Chair clarified that it was too early to confirm whether the plenary will take place in-person, virtually, or hybrid. The CFS Chair will keep informed the Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members as soon as updates from the host government and the host agency are available.

Bureau members were informed that draft conclusions and decisions for the various Agenda items will be presented for decision by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, at their meetings scheduled for 26/27 July 2022.

As per the process for determining the content of the next MYPoW, it was clarified that this process will start after CFS 50, and will be informed by a Note on Critical, Enduring and Emerging Issues in Food Security and Nutrition to be prepared by the CFS-HLPE as a background document for CFS 50.

Finally, on the timetable, the CFS Chair noted the need to devote more time to an in-depth discussion on the strategic direction of the Committee and on the Note on Critical, Enduring

and Emerging Issues in support of the development of the next MYPoW, and he acknowledged the call for diversity in the list of speakers for CFS 50, to ensure a wide variety of voices are featured. The CFS Chair also noted that some flexibility shall be considered, to accommodate possible items coming from conclusions of the ongoing work of the Group of Friends dealing with the follow-up to the UNFSS and implications for CFS, as needed.

#### 5. CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

#### 6. CFS Workstreams, Intersessional Events, and Budget Updates

The CFS Chair provided some highlights of the ongoing activities and a summary of his most recent engagements in public events, including the GFFA in Berlin, the EXPO in Dubai, the Salon International de l'Agriculture in Paris, the FAO Regional Conferences, and a hearing at the European Parliament in Bruxelles.

The CFS Chair informed that the advance English version of the GEWE Voluntary Guidelines was available since 15 March, and the official translated document would be available on 4 April in all official UN languages. The EU and US expressed concern over conducting negotiations in August since, in their view, this may limit participation/inclusiveness.

The CFS Chair also informed that the intersessional event on reducing inequalities, part of the approved MYPoW, is tentatively planned for 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022; and that a public event in May will commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the endorsement of the VGGTs by the CFS.

The representative of the Netherlands informed that a series of informal events are being organized in parallel to the formal CFS workstream on youth. In this regard, the first event – hosted by the Netherlands – will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> of March focusing on “how to make young voices heard”. Invitations will be sent to all CFS stakeholders.

The CFS Secretary provided an update on the 2021 budget, highlighting annual income and expenditure levels, and the balance of unspent funds in CFS trust funds at the end of FAO's 2020-2021 biennial reporting cycle. The Secretariat noted, in particular, the need to replenish the Multi-donor Trust Fund to support ongoing and future CFS workstreams and related activities.

Switzerland asked for further clarifications on the budget, including on the reduced annual contribution from IFAD, efforts to diversify the resource base, and on the remaining 2021 balance.

PSM asked if funding would be available to facilitate in-person participation at CFS 50; CSM sought information on any unspent resources from 2021. The Chair confirmed that the Secretary would share additional information on the 2021 budget (final numbers provided by FAO by end-March) and income/expenditure projections for 2022 at the Bureau's next meeting.

## 7. Any Other Business

**Additional Bureau meetings.** The CFS Chair informed of his intention to schedule an additional round of CFS Bureau meetings in late April due to the need to conclude the work of the Groups of Friends on follow-up to the UN Food Systems Summit, and the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security. After hearing a variety of reactions from Advisors and Bureau Members, the Chair concluded that the meetings would take place on 28/29 April.

**Principles and guidelines on negotiation modalities.** The CFS Chair thanked Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group members for the inputs and feedback provided on the Guidance Note on CFS Principles and Guidelines on Negotiation Modalities. The final version of the document will be shared in view of the upcoming negotiations process with a view to providing a useful tool for all CFS stakeholders. A Member suggested that individuals that represent institutions in Technical Focal Point Teams do not take active part in OEWG negotiations, in order to clearly separate these different roles and avoid any potential or perceived conflict of interest.

**GTE on Investments in food systems, stocktaking of the CFS-RAI.** The CFS Chair informed that the call for inputs via the FSN Forum on the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles would close on 15 April 2022. Despite the limited number of submissions received so far (six), the Secretariat was confident that more contributions were on their way; and a series of insightful contributions, including from FAO's RAI team, were expected soon. The CFS Chair encouraged all Members and participants to continue disseminating this call for inputs within their groups and networks.

**Philanthropies mechanism.** The CFS Chair recalled the discussion at the January Bureau meeting, when foundations presented a proposal for establishing a "light" coordination mechanism for three foundations. Following that meeting, he proposed to establish an informal working group to discuss the proposal, including with representatives of those foundations. He invited Germany, Dominican Republic, New Zealand, Argentina, and Brazil to join this group, and asked New Zealand if it would be interested to chair this small working group.

**Friends of the Chair group on UNFSS Follow-up.** The CFS Chair informed about the next meeting of this group which is now planned for the afternoon of 5 April to de-conflict with other meetings.



## Annex 1: List of attendees of the Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

### CFS Bureau Members:

H.E. Gabriel Ferrero (CFS Chair/Spain); Ms Antonietta Patricelli (Angola); Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Li Hanghao (China); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt); Ms Silke Stallkamp (Germany); Mr Tim Kränzlein (Switzerland); Mr Sean Cox, Mr Andrian McAdams (USA).

### CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Maarten de Groot (Canada); Ms Berioska Morrison, Ms Diana Infante (Dominican Republic); Mr Caka Alverdi Awal, Punta Cita Nugraha (Indonesia); Ms Manar Al Sabah (Kuwait); Mr Eric Hilberink (Netherlands); H.E. Ambassador Victor Vasiliev, Ms Ekaterina Vybornova (Russian Federation); Mr Barend Jacobus Lombard (South Africa); Mr Kayoya Masuhwa (Zambia).

### Advisory Group:

Mr Maximo Torero Cullen, Mr Stefanos Fotiou, Mr Marco Sanchez, Ms Serena Pepino, Mr Mark McGuire, Mr Andrew Nadeau (FAO), Ms Satu Santala, Mr Ron Hartman, Mr David Suttie, Ms Jordana Blankman, Ms Ruth Fianu (IFAD); Mr Arif Husain, Mr Marco Cavalcante, Mr Juan Elias Chebly, Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Ms Stineke Oenema, Ms Alessandra Mora (UNN); Mr Rodney Cooke (CGIAR); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (Gates Foundation); Ms Paola De Meo (SR RtF); Mr Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Mr Andre' Luzzi, Ms Charlotte Dreger, Ms Alberta Guerra, Ms Magdalena Ackermann, Ms Paula Gioia, Mr Tyler Short, Ms Giulia Simula, Ms Betsy Diaz, Ms Mariam Mohammad, Ms Patti Naylor, Ms Dee Woods, Ms Saima Zia, Ms Nora McKeon, Ms Cristina Brovia, Ms Miriency González, Ms Thierry Kesteloot, Mr Luca Bianchi, Ms Teresa Maisano (CSM); Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM); Ms Doaa Abdel-Motaal (WTO); Ms Marzella Wustefeld (WHO); Ms Carla Hommes (WBA); Mr Martien Van Nieuwkoop (WBG).

### Observers:

Mr Hans Hoogeveen (ICC); Ms Damien Kelly, Mr Thom van Stralen, Ms Cara Stauss (EU); Mr Kidane Asmerom (Eritrea); Mr Liron Maoz (Israel); Ms Cecilia Magarotto (GAFSP); Ed. Ranaivo (Madagascar); Ms Angeles Gomez (Mexico); Ms Kristine Medecin (Monaco); Ms Eliza Kalita (Poland); Mr Yuriy Grynevetskyi (Ukraine); Ms Federica Veschi (Thailand); Ms Hilal Elver, Ms Jennifer Clapp (HLPE StC); Ms Lee Ann Jackson (OECD); Ms Immaculada del Pino (IDLO); Mr Maurizio Navarra, A. Cordova, L. Passacantilli, Ms Michelle Tang, Ms Monique Amar (GDPRD); Jim Woodhill; Ms Marlen Schuepbach (4SD).

### CFS Secretariat:

Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator), Ms Françoise Trine, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Waiganjo Njoroge, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Mr Martin Schunk, Mr Pascal Lemasle, Ms Silvia Meiattini.

## Annex 2: List of attendees of the Bureau meeting

### CFS Bureau Members:

H.E. Gabriel Ferrero (CFS Chair/Spain); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Ms Antonietta Patricelli (Angola); Mr Manash Mitra (Bangladesh); Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Li Hanghao , Ms Li Xi (China); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt); Ms Silke Stallkamp (Germany); Mr Anthony Gikandi Muriithi (Kenya); Mr Don Syme (New Zealand); Mr Tim Kränzlein (Switzerland); Mr Sean Cox, Mr Andrian McAdams (USA).

### CFS Bureau Alternates:

Mr Maarten de Groot (Canada); Ms Berioska Morrison, Ms Diana Infante, Ms Moira Vargas (Dominican Republic); Mr Caka Alverdi Awal, Punta Cita Nugraha (Indonesia); Mr Eric Hilberink (Netherlands); Ms Ekaterina Vybornova, Ms Dilyara Ravilova-Borovik (Russian Federation).

### Observers:

Mr Damien Kelly, Ms Cara Stauss (EU Delegation); Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard (France).

### CFS Secretariat:

Mr Chris Hegadorn (Secretary), Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE Coordinator), Ms Françoise Trine, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Mr Fabio Isoldi, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Waiganjo Njoroge, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Mr Martin Schunk, Mr Pascal Lemasle, Ms Silvia Meiattini, Ms Paola Termine.