

## **CFS Bureau meeting**

**Date: 30 November 2023**

**Time: 14:00 - 17:00**

**Virtual/Hybrid meeting (Zoom Platform + King Faisal Room)**

## **Bureau Meeting Outcomes - With Bureau Decisions**

### **Agenda**

1. Introduction of the new CFS Chairperson, Bureau members and Alternates
2. Election of the CFS Vice-Chairperson (with Bureau decision)
3. Advisory Group composition (with Bureau decision)
4. Appointment of Rapporteurs for workstreams on Addressing Inequalities and on Uptake
5. HLPE-FSN Steering Committee 2023-2025 – Introductions and exchange
6. Any other business

### **1. Introduction of the new CFS Chairperson, Bureau members and Alternates**

The Chairperson, H.E. Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile of South Africa, welcomed the new Members of the Bureau and their Alternates, emphasizing the significant role of the Bureau and the strategic importance of the 2023-2024 intersessional period and recalling the expectations set through the 2024-2027 MYPoW. Following the Chair's proposal to share a tentative CFS calendar for 2023-2024 under item 6 AOB, the agenda of the meeting was approved.

The Chair stressed the comprehensive nature of the MyPoW and the importance of flexibility in its implementation, effective relationships with the Rome-based Agencies and increased regional outreach as key elements of CFS as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all. She also highlighted the importance of predictable resources as a priority for the implementation of the CFS MYPoW, to ensure that human and financial resources are available for the effective functioning of the CFS Secretariat.

Before opening the floor for a *tour de table*, the Chair invited Bureau members and Alternates to share, in addition to their introductions, a wish for the future of the Committee.

Several Bureau members and Alternates underlined the critical period ahead for the CFS vision of ending hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and pointed to: i) CFS as an important and broad platform to discuss and build consensus on FSN-related issues; ii) the successful implementation of the MYPoW; and iii) strengthening the uptake of CFS policy agreements. In addition, several Bureau members underlined the important role of consensus-based decision-making within the CFS and expressed their continued support to this end.

Some members also spoke about the need to further strengthen the inclusive nature of CFS through the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, as well as to enhance the visibility of CFS and its impact at country level, including through the active participation of the entire CFS membership.

In response to the Bureau members and Alternates, the Chair proposed to host a Committee Retreat to reflect on the 51<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session and to develop a common understanding of the way forward.

## 2. Election of the CFS Vice-Chairperson

### Bureau decision:

The CFS Bureau elected from among its members a Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Jenny Reid, Counsellor Primary Industries and Deputy Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the FAO, for the same biannual term of office as the Chairperson of the CFS.

## 3. Advisory Group composition

### Bureau decision:

The CFS Chair proposed, and the Bureau agreed, that, pending a decision based on further information and analysis on the exact composition of the Advisory Group beyond the three permanent members, - FAO, WFP and IFAD -, the Bureau maintains ‘ad hoc’ invitations to groups/organizations that have heretofore been regular participants of the Advisory Group. In light of the above, the agreed composition of the Advisory Group includes:

#### ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS (PERMANENT SEAT)

1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
2. UN World Food Programme (WFP)
3. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

#### AD-HOC PARTICIPANTS

1. World Health Organization (WHO)
2. UN Nutrition
3. UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food
4. World Bank
5. Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM)
6. Private Sector Mechanism (PSM)
7. Philanthropic Foundation Mechanism (PFM)
8. Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
9. World Farmers' Organization (WFO)

Furthermore, the Chair proposed, and the Bureau agreed, to continue the dialogue on the composition of the Advisory Group beyond the three permanent members, FAO, WFP and IFAD, building on a document to be provided by the CFS Secretariat.

#### 4. Appointment of Rapporteurs for workstreams on Addressing Inequalities and on Uptake

##### Bureau decision:

The Bureau approved by acclamation the nomination of Ms Lara Lobo Monteiro, Alternate Permanent Representative of Brazil, as the Rapporteur for the Inequalities workstream (A.2.1 of the MYPoW: “Reducing Inequalities for food security and nutrition”) and Ms Josyline Javelosa, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Philippines, as Rapporteur for the Uptake workstream (A.3.1 of the MYPoW: “In-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes at all levels”).

## 5. HLPE-FSN Steering Committee 2023-2025 – Introductions and exchange

The CFS Chair welcomed the members of the new Steering Committee of the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) for the period 2023-2025 and underlined the important role of the HLPE-FSN as the only United Nations-mandated science-policy interface on agri-food systems, providing independent, comprehensive and evidence-based analysis and developing its studies through a scientific, transparent and inclusive process. The newly elected Chairperson of the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee, Ms. Akiko Suwa-Eisenmann, opened the *tour de table* expressing the preparedness of the HLPE-FSN to support and strengthen the work of the CFS and highlighting the fact that the 15 members of the Steering Committee represent only a small part of the much larger scientific community behind the HLPE-FSN.

Subsequently, all members of the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee introduced themselves, illustrating their diversity in terms of nationalities, scientific backgrounds in fields related to food security and nutrition and regional experience.

Following the introductions, the CFS Bureau Members had the opportunity to engage in discussion with the members of the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee. Indonesia, for example, expressed the need for an increased focus on anticipatory research, including analysis and assessment of potential future challenges. The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee members agreed with this statement, and expressed their willingness to further cooperate and engage with the CFS Bureau to discuss ways to implement agile and flexible research approaches that can respond to future needs.

New Zealand raised a question on how the HLPE-FSN manages to ensure regional diversity in its reports. The Chair of the Steering Committee highlighted that, in addition to the diverse composition of the HLPE-FSN, regional diversity is enhanced through e-consultations, which enable contributions by experts and practitioners from various regions and disciplines. Bureau members could support this process through outreach in their regions. The United States of America followed up on this aspect encouraging the Bureau to enhance participation in the HLPE-FSN e-consultations. The United States of America also wished for a reflection on the uptake of HLPE-FSN recommendations in the CFS policy convergence processes, especially in conjunction with the OEWG on the uptake of CFS policy products and information from other science-policy interfaces.

Mr. Iain Wright, Vice-Chair of the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee, explained that the HLPE-FSN engages in other processes and fora, such as the “Montpellier process”, and that the HLPE-

FSN is open to provide clarification or further information on specific scientific topics for the CFS policy convergence process, while not engaging in the political process *per se*. Regarding the expected contribution of the HLPE-FSN to the MYPoW workstream on “Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation” (A.1.4), it was clarified that the HLPE-FSN would be invited to provide input to this workstream, with details to be discussed and defined by the Bureau.

The CFS Chair concluded the discussion by summarizing the main points raised by the members of the Bureau and the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee, including the identified need for an assessment of the impact of CFS policy products, including with the collaboration by the HLPE-FSN, and the consideration of a mechanism to assess the outcome/uptake of the recommendations of the HLPE-FSN in the CFS policy products, as well as a mechanisms to facilitate engagement in HLPE-FSN processes and consultation at the regional levels. The CFS Chair concluded with underlining the appreciation for the HLPE-FSN experts and the need to continue this conversation.

## 6. Any other business

The CFS Secretary briefly touched on the tentative calendar for 2024, noting that it would be circulated to all CFS Bureau members and its Alternates.

## Annex 1: Attendance list

### CFS Bureau Members:

H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile (CFS Chair), Mr Bennie Lombard (South Africa); Ms Jenny Reid (Vice-Chair/New Zealand); Mr Emile Butoyi (Burundi); Mr Guo Su, Mr Hanghao Li (China); Ms Neena Malhotra (India); Mr Michel Leveque (France); Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland); Mr Guillermo Spika (Argentina); Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil); Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt); Mr Manar Al Salah (Kuwait); Mr Sean Cox (USA).

### CFS Bureau Alternates:

H.E. Sem Aly Coulibaly (Mali); Mr Purna Cita Nugraha, (Indonesia); Ms Ratchanok Sangpenchan, Ms Supajit Sriariyawat (Thailand); Ms Diana Ingrid (Norway); Ms Catalina Costantin (Romania); Ms Claudia Gozalez Toledo (Cuba); Ms Berioska Morrison, Ms Moira Vargas, Ms Patricia Rodriguez (Dominican Republic); Mr Maarten de Groot (Canada).

### Observers:

Mr Matthijs van Huijgevoort (EU Delegation).

### CFS Secretariat:

Mr Günter Hemrich, Ms Bahar Zorofi, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Tatiana Moruz, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Carolin Busch, Ms Raquel Morato, Mr Evariste Nicoletis (HLPE-FSN Coordinator), Ms Paola Termine, Ms Silvia Meiattini (HLPE-FSN).