

**CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting and CFS Bureau meeting**

**Date: 8 November 2024**

**Time: 09:30 – 12:30 and 14:00 - 17:00**

**Hybrid meeting (FAO King Faisal room and Zoom Platform)**

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

Agenda

1. Reflections on CFS 52 and follow-up actions
  - A. Feedback on CFS 52
  - B. Chair’s introduction to FAO Council
2. Collaborative governance – Follow-up
3. Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems – TTT composition
4. Workstream updates
5. Any Other Business

The CFS Chairperson, Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, welcomed CFS Bureau and (ad hoc) Advisory Group Members to the first joint meeting after the CFS 52 Plenary Session and outlined the provisional agenda.

The agenda was adopted.

Participants were informed that the meeting would be recorded, per usual practice, for the Secretariat’s note-taking purposes.

1. Reflections on CFS 52 and follow-up actions (Tour de table)
  - A. Feedback on CFS 52

The CFS Chairperson provided an overview of this agenda item by acknowledging the successful conclusion of the recent CFS Plenary and thanking the Bureau and Advisory Group members for their dedicated efforts and commitment and their invaluable support in preparing for this session.

The need for a collective reflection on what worked well and what needs to be improved was highlighted as we look ahead to CFS 53.

Bureau and Advisory Group Members provided positive feedback on the Agenda of the Plenary Session as well as on the relevance of the topics that were addressed. It was noted that some sessions went over compared to the time that was originally allocated to them causing delays and the postponement of other sessions. In this regard, proper time management should be carried out in the context of all sessions.

The idea of organizing short roundtables at the beginning of some sessions was well received as an effective way to set the stage and stimulate a meaningful discussion among CFS stakeholders. At the same time, it was raised that no real opportunities for active interactions between speakers and delegations on the floor were provided. The relevance of selected speakers was highlighted, while it was requested that panelists are identified and confirmed well in advance of the plenary session in order to facilitate travel arrangements and visa processes.

With reference to CFS 52 deliberations, CFS Bureau and Advisory Group Members acknowledged the important achievement reached within a complex context. A request was made to continue ensuring that CFS Participants are allowed to intervene at different stages of the discussions – including when text proposals are being discussed – to contribute to decision-making which remains a prerogative of CFS Members. In this regard, it was suggested that a follow-up discussion on this matter be held in a future Bureau and Advisory Group meeting to jointly reflect on existing rules and consolidated practices. This would represent an opportunity to hear about legal and experience perspectives as a way to clarify this matter in view of future CFS plenaries.

The importance of reducing the number of side events was highlighted by different members, bearing in mind that their high number depends on the many proposals that were submitted to the CFS Secretariat. It was suggested that the call of side events be structured in a slightly different way by linking more closely the themes of the side events to the topics that are addressed in the main CFS plenary agenda. In view of CFS 53, it was requested to start earlier with the side event process in order to finalize the programme in advance and give enough time to organizers to plan their events. Furthermore, the introduction of the Friday morning slot for side events was well received.

A number of suggestions were presented to improve the management of the CFS website ensuring that its information is constantly updated and accessible as well as to increase the media visibility of the CFS plenary. It was highlighted that the latter represents a collective responsibility and, as such, this matter will be further discussed in a future Bureau and Advisory Group meeting.

### **Bureau discussion**

Bureau Members reiterated that CFS 52 represented an example of the importance of multilateral dialogues and of the key role of the Committee in bringing together and fostering discussion between different stakeholders with a view to finding common positions.

The need to reduce the number of panelists was reiterated as for some agenda items there was not enough time allocated for their interventions nor for interaction between them and delegates from the floor.

Bureau Members reiterated the need to reduce the number of side events while positive feedback was provided on the proposal to closely link the themes of side events to the topics covered in the plenary agenda.

Bureau Members expressed their interest in the follow-up discussions on the matter concerning intervention modalities for CFS Participants, acknowledging that dedicated stand-alone meetings might be needed, in addition to an agenda item in upcoming Bureau and Advisory Group meetings.

o B. Chair's introduction to FAO Council

The introductory remarks that the CFS Chair is planning to deliver at the upcoming FAO Council to present the Final Report of the 52nd Plenary of CFS were circulated as a background document presented by the CFS Chairperson to Bureau and Advisory Group members.

### **Bureau discussion**

The Bureau Members welcomed the background document and a clarification concerning possible implications of the fact that the CFS item at the next FAO Council was moved from the segment dedicated to FAO Technical Committee to the one focusing on UN Partnerships was raised.

## 2. Collaborative governance – Follow-up (for discussion)

The CFS Chairperson recalled that the summary report presented at the CFS plenary includes, among others, a list of topics which had been proposed for discussion in future meetings of the workstream, and which were included in the background document for this agenda item. Delegations expressed their positions on the significance of this workstream and on how future work should be organized.

As to the criteria relevant for the selection of topics for meetings in 2025, the CFS Chairperson referred to the proposed criteria in her summary report. Several Members of the Bureau and Advisory Group proposed amendments to these criteria.

The CFS Chairperson indicated that connections with other activities under the MYPoW should also be taken into account such as potential synergies with the two high level fora foreseen under the MYPoW on climate, biodiversity, land degradation and the right to food and on strengthening responsible investment and financing for FSN. Members of the Bureau and Advisory Group expressed various preferences for topics. Furthermore, the discussion focused on the potential for merging some of the proposed topics.

### **Bureau discussion**

The CFS Chairperson reiterated the key elements discussed during the morning's session. With regard to the proposed criteria for prioritizing the topics, Bureau Members expressed support for the below list of criteria:

- The extent to which the topics address the basic and structural causes of food insecurity and malnutrition in food systems and related systems,

- The potential for linking the CFS to other relevant international and UN institutions, fora and initiatives, including the timing and location of other events; including the alignment with the activities under the MYPoW linked to potential synergies with the high level fora foreseen under the MYPoW on climate, biodiversity, land degradation in the context of the right to food and on strengthening responsible investment and financing for FSN; and
- The extent to which the topics are relevant for the most affected countries and constituencies.

Based on the discussions, the Bureau invited the technical task team to further explore a concrete proposal for the agendas of the two meetings in 2025 based on the criteria for prioritization. The Chairperson announced that a proposal would be shared with the Bureau and Advisory Group under a silence procedure.

### 3. Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems – TTT composition (for discussion and Bureau decision)

The CFS Chairperson introduced this agenda item by recalling previous discussions regarding the composition of the Technical Task Team (TTT) for the workstream on “Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition”. It was noted that TTTs provide essential technical expertise, complementing the expertise of the CFS Secretariat, contributing resources and effectively functioning as an extended Secretariat to support the drafting of documents in a timely and cost-effective manner. It was also clarified that comments and inputs throughout the various steps of the development of the CFS policy recommendations are welcomed by all CFS stakeholders

Advisory Group Members welcomed the Chair’s introduction with no further comments.

### **Bureau Decision**

The CFS Chairperson reiterated the points raised during the morning session and the Bureau decided to maintain the composition of the TTT Members for the policy convergence processes with the focal points nominated by the RBAs, highlighting that unless otherwise specified, this is to be considered the standard TTT composition for policy convergence processes.

### 4. Workstream updates

The Chairperson referred to the background document on this agenda item and the information contained therein, highlighting a few of her recent outreach activities such as a webinar with UN Resident Coordinators on CFS policy products and the engagement during the World Food Forum.

### **Bureau Discussion**

The CFS Chairperson’s introduction mirrored the morning’s session with no further comments by Members.

### 5. Any Other Business

The CFS Secretary provided an overview of the CFS calendar for the intersessional year. In particular, she informed Bureau and Advisory Group Members of the following confirmed dates (venue TBC):

- **9 December 2024:** Thematic Session on Localizing SDG2: multilevel governance
- **13 December 2024 OEWG meeting:** Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems
- **22 January 2025** Bureau and Advisory Group meeting / Bureau meeting Date
- **7 March 2025 OEWG meeting:** Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems
- **18 March 2025** Bureau and Advisory Group meeting / Bureau meeting Date
- **March/April 2025 High-Level Forum** “Tackling Climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation through the right to food”
- **May 2025 High-Level Forum** on Strengthening Responsible Investments and Financing for FSN

### **Bureau Discussion**

No additional comments occurred under this agenda item.

## Annex 1: Attendance list Bureau and Advisory Group meeting

**CFS Bureau Members:** Ambassador Nosipho Jezile (Chair), Mr Jujjavarapu Balaji (India), Ms Patricia Rodriguez (Dominican Republic), Mr Michele Leveque (France), Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland), Mr Mina Rizk (Egypt), Mr Yousef Juhail (Kuwait); Ms Ronit Gerard (USA)

**CFS Bureau Alternates:** Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil), Ms Erma Rheindayani (Indonesia), Ms Supajit Sriariyawat (Thailand), Ms Emily Ryen Gloinsson (Norway), Ms Catalina Constantin (Romania), Mr Abdelaziz Zidani (Morocco), Mr Maarten De Groot (Canada)

**Advisory Group:** Mr Maximo Torero Cullen, Ms Dubravka Bojic, (FAO); Ms Elena Bertusi (IFAD); Mr Jacopo Valentini (WFP); Mr Fabrizio Moscatelli (PFM); Mr James Garret (CGIAR); Ms Paola De Meo (Special Rapporteur Right to Food); Ms Magdalena Ackermann, Ms Nora McKeon, Ms Giulia Simula, Ms Souad Mahmoud, Ms Betsy Diaz, Mr Dionicio Canahui (CSIPM); Mr Brian Baldwin (PSM)

**Support to the CFS Chairperson:** Mr Bennie Lombard (South Africa)

### CFS Secretariat:

Ms Adriana Herrera Moreno, Mr Marco Marzano, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Riccardo Mazzucchelli, Ms Carolin Busch, Ms Marlène Wasek, Ms Raquel Morato Hernandez, Ms Valentina Delle Fratte, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Eleonora Viotti, Ms Paola Termine, Ms Silvia Meiattini (HLPE-FSN Secretariat)

## Annex 2: Attendance list Bureau meeting

**CFS Bureau Members:** Ambassador Nosipho Jezile (Chair), Mr Hanghao Li (China), Ms Patricia Rodriguez, Ms Moira Vargas (Dominican Republic), Ms Mina Rizk (Egypt), Mr Michel Leveque (France), Mr Jujjavarapu Balaji (India), Ms Christina Blank (Switzerland), Ms Ronit Gerard (USA)

**CFS Bureau Alternates:** Ms Lara Lobo (Brazil), Ms Erma Rheindayani (Indonesia), Ms Napat Prasertsuvan (Thailand), Ms Emily Ryen Gloinsson, Ms Dana Ingrid (Norway)

**Support to the CFS Chairperson:** Mr Bennie Lombard (South Africa).

### CFS Secretariat:

Ms Adriana Herrera Moreno, Mr Marco Marzano, Mr Lorenz Franken, Ms Chiara Cirulli, Mr Emilio Colonnelli, Ms Giorgia Paratore, Mr Riccardo Mazzucchelli, Ms Carolin Busch, Ms Marlène Wasek, Ms Raquel Morato Hernandez, Ms Valentina Delle Fratte, Ms Sylvia Orebi, Ms Eleonora Viotti, Ms Marina Calvino, Ms Paola Termine (HLPE-FSN Secretariat)