Increasing Awareness, Ownership, Use and Usefulness of CFS Policy Outcomes – draft outline of action plan

Feedback from New Zealand:

Appreciate the work of the rapporteur and secretariat in drafting the proposed action plan.

Acknowledge that many of the important concepts have been captured in the draft Action Plan.

Noting the objective of this work stream: to foster in-depth debate on how to increase the impact, promote the dissemination, ownership, use and uptake of CFS policy agreements.

Part of the solution of increasing the impact an ownership of the CFS products is greater visibility and relevance of the CFS generally to members to encourage greater collaboration in the process of the policy guidance development as well as commitment to implementation of the products. Part of the action plan should capture a general awareness increase and support for the work of CFS as well as the products. It is the foundation of being able to promote the policy outcomes. The work and visibility of CFS could be greatly enhanced if the three UN Rome based agencies — FAO, WFP and IFAD - were more active in their recognition and promotion of CFS.

It would also be very helpful to see where the CFS policy products supported or added value to other UN policy products or guidance. There is real benefit in linking CFS wok to other work as much as possible rather than it always standing out on a limb.

On the content of the action plan itself:

1. THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

[To be added: introductory sentences highlighting roles and expected contribution of these actors]

Actions to strengthen the **usefulness** of CFS policy agreements:

There should be a process captured here for providing feedback on the CFS guidance that may not be relevant; may need updating or is generally not useful or could be improved. This is a different concept than what is captured below in lessons learned.

- 1.A.1 **Effective prioritization** of topics for CFS policy convergence processes during the MYPOW development (urgency and relevance of the topic to national needs and priorities, alignment with priorities of relevant UN bodies)
- 1.A.2 Development of **concrete, understandable and actionable** CFS policy agreements, focusing on potential users and targeting specific stakeholders;
- 1.A.3 Application of an inclusive policy convergence **process** (sufficient time for inputs and discussions, diverse technical sources and stakeholders to be engaged, adequate time for negotiations).

Actions to promote awareness and use of CFS policy agreements:

- 1.B.1 Development of **guidance on how to promote** the use of CFS policy agreements through identification of:
- i **Uptake and dissemination tools and activities** that can be developed by different stakeholders to promote the dissemination and integration of CFS policy agreements into, as appropriate, national, institutional, legal and policy frameworks;
- ii **Target groups** of different uptake activities;
- iii **National needs** linking the application of each specific CFS policy agreement to relevant national priorities and realities;

- iv Relevant **stakeholders** across sectors that could be involved in order to increase cross-sectoral collaboration and coherence between different policy areas;
- v **Lessons learned** from previous uptake exercises, including what worked and what did not work, main barriers and enablers for success. Providing a process to share these with other members would be useful and helpful.
- 1.B.2 Mapping of national and regional multi-stakeholder platforms that can analyse and adapt CFS policy agreements to national and regional contexts, and promote cross-sectoral dialogues to facilitate their uptake;
- 1.B.3 **Identification of pilot countries** where the application of specific CFS policy agreements can be promoted, based on national priorities and needs;
- 1.B.4 Development of an updated **strategy for monitoring and evaluation** of the uptake of CFS policy agreements that is linked to national reporting mechanisms; and there is a mechanism for feeding the results back to CFS

Very important that this monitoring and evaluation is linked with national reporting mechanisms. This should include a way of capturing lessons learned or recommendations for modification/improvements.

1.B.5 - **Mapping of relevant spaces and processes** where linkages with CFS have to be strengthened to disseminate its outcomes;

Very important to link CFS as much as possible to imbed it in with other national/ regional processes/activities.

- 1.B.6 Development of a communication strategy for consistent and coherent information, dissemination and promotion of CFS policy agreements to relevant targeted audiences; 2 February 2024 1.B.7 Development by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of a compilation of key CFS agreements concerning policies to address food insecurity and malnutrition and to promote agrifood systems transformation; are you referring to guidance or policy outcomes when talking about CFS agreements? Think we need to be careful and consistent with how we refer to the outcomes of CFS.
- 1.B.8 Translation of CFS policy agreements into national and local languages;
- 1.B.9 Engagement in **resource mobilization** efforts to support the development of such uptake activities (targeted activities, indications on funding required, awareness on time required for effective policy change).

2. CFS MEMBERS IN THEIR NATIONAL CAPACITY

[To be added: introductory sentences highlighting roles and expected contribution of these actors] Actions to strengthen the **usefulness** of CFS policy agreements:

[To be added depending on future inputs]

Actions to promote awareness and use of CFS policy agreements:

- 2.B.1 Provision of **financial resources** dedicated to strengthening the use of CFS policy agreements at regional and local levels;
- 2.B.2 Identification of **CFS national focal points** at national level (roles, sectors, ways of communication); It would be good if focal points were linked in more generally with food and nutrition /agriculture/ food security policy to avoid duplication of efforts and enhance linkages.
- 2.B.3 Establishment of **national multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral structures** and mechanisms that can support the use of CFS policy agreements; better if CFS joins in with existing structures where they exist
- 2.B.4 Creation of an **enabling environment** at national level (empowered change agents, inclusive institutions, enhanced policy and legal frameworks);
- 2.B.5 Development of activities that **increase the visibility of CFS policy agreements** (thematic events, awareness raising events, advocating for inclusion of references to policy agreements in multilateral negotiations).

3. UN AGENCIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

[To be added: introductory sentences highlighting roles and expected contribution of these actors] Actions to strengthen the **usefulness** of CFS policy agreements:

3.A.1 - **Improve collaboration across UN system** to ensure that CFS policy agreements are fit for purpose and are connected to existing initiatives and processes.

Actions to promote **awareness and use** of CFS policy agreements: ² February 2024

- 3.B.1 **Mainstreaming CFS policy agreements** in the strategies, programmes and technical activities of the Rome-based Agencies and other relevant UN bodies and institutions; this is a simple and effective thing to be done not always well accepted with some members
- 3.B.2 Strengthening CFS presence in the context of the global and regional meetings of the **Governing Bodies of the Rome-based Agencies** to raise awareness about CFS policy agreements;
- 3.B.3 Strengthening interaction and collaboration between CFS and UN technical committees that deal with issues linked to the topics of the CFS policy agreements;
- 3.B.4 Regular **awareness raising sessions** to inform UN staff on CFS activities and agreements and strengthen linkages and development of uptake activities involving relevant **UN actors at national level** (e.g. UN Resident Coordinators);
- 3.B.5 Development of **uptake activities and tools to promote the use** of CFS policy agreements at national level (e.g. in collaboration with UN technical units and country representatives, UN Resident Coordinators, etc.);
- 3.B.6 Provision of **technical support** to countries and regions to promote the integration of CFS policy agreements into national and regional legislations, programmes and policy frameworks;
- 3.B.7 Engagement in **resource mobilization efforts** to support activities that promote the use of CFS policy agreements at national and regional levels;
- 3.B.8 **Guidance on expectations** of how the Rome-based Agencies and other UN agencies should use CFS policy agreements.

4. CIVIL SOCIETY AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

[To be added: introductory sentences highlighting roles and expected contribution of these actors] Actions to strengthen the **usefulness** of CFS policy agreements:

[To be added depending on future inputs]
Actions to promote **awareness and use** of CFS policy agreements:

4.B.1 - Development of **trainings**, **advocacy and awareness raising events and activities** carried out by national civil society organizations to raise awareness about CFS policy agreements.

5. PRIVATE SECTOR AND PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATONS

[To be added: introductory sentences highlighting roles and expected contribution of these actors] Actions to strengthen the **usefulness** of CFS policy agreements:

[To be added depending on future inputs]
Actions to promote **awareness and use** of CFS policy agreements: 2 February 2024

5.B.1 - Development of **educational webinars or other events** for private sector representatives targeting different geographical areas