



**MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION IN THE CFS
BUILDING INSTITUTIONS FOR NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY
AND NUTRITION GOVERNANCE**

Side Event to the FAO Regional Conference for Africa

Luanda, Angola, 5th May, 2010

1. BACKGROUND

Faced with rising hunger and the need to improve global governance of our food system, the FAO Member States have agreed at the 34th Session of Committee on World Food Security (CFS), in October 2008, to embark on a reform of the CFS so that it could play a vital role in governance of food security and nutrition. The FAO Council has considered “the CFS reform to be crucial to the governance of world food security, with a view toward exploring synergies with the emerging Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition” (CL 136/REP, paragraph 29). CFS reform has been a topic of discussion in many global fora including G8, G20 and the UN General Assembly and the reform process was concluded at the 35th session of CFS in October 2009.

The importance of CFS reform was recognized by all Member States in the final declaration of the 2009 World Summit on Food Security and by the FAO Conference in November 2009. Members agreed that beginning after the Committee’s meeting in mid-October 2009, CFS’ activities, particularly in areas of policy convergence, facilitated support and advice to countries and regions will be the first to be implemented. *In terms of promoting greater policy convergence at all levels*, this will imply in a first phase the promotion and development at national and regional levels, of a feasible strategy to promote coherent inclusive institutional frameworks allowing for the discussion and implementation of food and nutrition policies. This should be made on the basis of best practices, lessons learned, inputs received from the national and regional levels, expert advice and opinions from different stakeholders.

At national level in Africa several countries, such as Angola, the hosting country of the FAO 26th Regional Conference for Africa, or Mozambique, had approved and are developing, their national food security strategies and the respective inclusive institutional frameworks. Several other countries are moving in to the same direction. In most cases, these structures seek to combine lasting multi-stakeholder platforms with increased inter-ministerial coordination. Other countries in the region have different arrangements based on a food security institutional focal point or are implementing specific frameworks (“compacts”) in which country owned plans shall be discussed by a wide range of stakeholders including the donor community. Several national governments and Regional Economic Integration Organizations

(REIOs) have also designed and launched nationally and regionally-owned large scale programmes for food security (NPFS/RPFS) that aim to assist member nations efforts in achieving their WFS and MDG hunger reduction targets. Twelve of such national programmes are presently under implementation. It is important to discuss these experiences in order to evaluate the best way to promote greater institutional and policy coherence at national and at regional level.

During the CFS discussions, the (sub-) regional multi-stakeholders dimension was often mentioned. Now is the time to start a discussion on how to concretely link the ongoing regional processes with the global CFS forum. This side event will provide the opportunity to discuss this dimension, based on concrete experiences from countries as well as from sub-regional bodies

The objective, methodology, provisional agenda and expected results for the side event are presented below.

2) OBJECTIVE

Contribute to discussion of existent institutional best practices, lessons learnt and possible links with the regional implementation of the CFS, particularly the establishment of multi-stakeholder's mechanisms at regional level.

3) METHODOLOGY

3.1 Panelists

The side event in Africa will be opened by H.E. Filomena Delgado, Angolan Secretary of State for Rural Development and chaired by Noel De Luna, CFS Chair. The previous discussions from 31st FAO Conference for Latin America and Caribbean Region will be shared

National governments, such as Angola (the hosting country) and Mozambique will be invited to share their experiences as well as countries with other structures, such as Mali and Senegal, regional bodies (ECOWAS) and initiatives (CAADP/ NEPAD) and civil society will present ongoing experiences in the region and the results of the discussions to create a CSOs/NGOs Forum linked to the CFS. South-South Cooperation experiences in support of food security could be presented by a major recipient country, such as Nigeria. A remarkable case study from the national private sector will be identified and respective proponents will be invited to make a presentation.

Guidelines for the presentations will be prepared.

Panelists coming from other countries are invited to arrive in Luanda by 3rd of May and can leave by 6th depending on flights availability. A meeting between all panelists and the organization is previewed for the 4th of May between 14:00 – 17:00 PM.

3.2 Invitations to other organizations

Other organizations will be invited to attend the meeting and to actively participate in the discussions. Significant efforts will be made to include in this dialogue donors (European Union and Spanish Cooperation), representatives from other UN agencies and coordination team from the UN High Level Task Force as well as a representative from the *Alliance Against Hunger Initiative* at regional level.

3.3 Final Report

The final report will be produced by the Partnership Division of FAO (OCEP) and the CFS Secretariat.

4) PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TIME FRAME

13:45 – The event will be opened by H.E. Filomena Delgado, Angolan Secretary of State for Rural Development and chaired by Noel De Luna, Chair of CFS.

National Institutional Frameworks

14:00 – 14:15 – David Tunga, Angola – Ministry of Agriculture

14:15 – 14:30 – Marcela Libombo, Mozambique - SETSAN

14:30 – 14:45 – Ndiobo Diene, Senegal – Ministry of Agriculture

Multi-Stakeholders Participation

15:00 – 15:30 – Civil Society participation in the CFS at national and regional levels. Experience from the Regional Civil Society Network for Food Security (Portuguese Speaking Countries and results from the discussions regarding the International Civil Society Forum linked to the CFS).

15:30 - 15:45 – Jose Macedo, Lactiangol - Angola

Regional Institutional frameworks

15:45 – 16:00 – Martin Bwalya , CAADP/NEPAD

16:00 – 16:15 – Oyesola Olumide Oyebanji - South-South Cooperation Initiative, Nigeria

16:15 – 17:00 – Feedback from the floor

Francisco Sarmiento – FAO

Florence Lasbennes – UN High Level Task Force Coordination Team

Discussion and closing remarks

5) EXPECTED RESULTS

The side event outcomes will be shared by the CFS Chair during the Ministerial Meeting. It will be also the starting point for further discussions in a similar side event to be organized in Asia later in the year (September). The main goal is to build a cumulative learning process involving the three regions.