

IFAP Comments on the Committee on World Food Security Provisional Agenda and Agenda Notes

The International Federation of Agricultural Producers, an organization in consultative status with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, is pleased to send its comments to the four interim CSO Advisory Group Members to ensure that IFAP's voice and concerns are properly represented to the Committee on World Food Security.

General comments:

- Farmers should speak for themselves: farmers have democratically structured organizations that represent them nationally. It would be an asset for the debates and results of the conference to provide opportunities for food producers' organizations' interventions.

IV. Global Developments Relevant to Food Security and Nutrition

- IFAP is pleased that the coordination of major food security initiatives is included in the agenda as IFAP is involved already in many of these. Giving coherence to and coordinating the activities of these initiatives would be a challenging but useful objective.
- IFAP appreciates the recognition for food producers' organizations as a specific stakeholder constituency (paragraph 4).

V . Regional Initiatives for Food Security and Nutrition

Food producers' organizations and their regional structures, including the regional committees of IFAP in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Mediterranean and the OECD countries, would be in a key position to reflect the realities on the ground of multi-stakeholder initiatives on food security and nutrition.

VII. National Initiatives for Food Security and Nutrition Case Studies

IFAP encourages a common framework for Food Security and Nutrition Case Studies that includes clear specific indications on farmer involvement. This will showcase farmers' collaboration in successful national examples, such as in Malawi and Vietnam.

VIII. Policy Roundtables

- IFAP feels that the subjects for these three policy roundtables are well chosen.
- However, IFAP would encourage the CFS to deal with investment in agriculture and land tenure separately. They are in fact separate subjects, even if complementary. Investment in agriculture is linked to various aspects: innovation, markets' access, infrastructures, technology transfers, etc.

- IFAP recommends that the panelists for the roundtables be chosen with urgency and that they hold a series of preparatory conference calls to develop draft recommendations.
- IFAP suggests that an attorney or professor of international law work with each panel to translate the recommendations into actionable recommendations. The objective is to set up global recommendations that can meaningfully be shared with the Plenary for approval. If this work is not done beforehand, it would be unlikely that any actionable conclusions can be reached or adopted by all stakeholders.
- IFAP agrees with the third round table item on risks management. It is essential to take into account an integrated approach of the many risks threatening food security and nutrition locally and globally, in particular market and environmental risks.

IX. Global Coordination for Food Security and Nutrition in Support of National Processes

IFAP insists that a real space is given to food producers' organizations, and suggests a place on the steering committee should be considered. IFAP requests more precision on the contents of the Global Strategic Framework draft and what space would be given for farmers representative farmers' organizations.

Document submitted by David King, Secretary General (david.king@ifap.org), Fabienne Derrien, Senior Policy Officer (Fabienne.derrien@ifap.org) and Neil Sorensen, Communications Coordinator (neil.sorensen@ifap.org).